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MANIFESTO

Of Section Lincoln, Neb., In the Municipal Campaign

The Ticket.

For Police Judge.....FRED. HERRMAN.
For Members Board of Excise, ...A. V. HERRMAN. ....H. S. ALEY.

Of all proletarians in the city of Lincoln, and all members of the middle class, who are playing a losing game in the struggle for existence (and who thereby will soon be forced into the ranks of the proletariat) we, the Socialists of this city, ask a candid and impartial perusal of this, our manifesto, and then, should you be convinced that the S. L. P. truly represents the interest of the wage-earning class, we beg you as honest men, to stand true to your class interests in the coming municipal election, by working and voting for the above S. L. P. candidates.

THE CLASS STRUGGLE.

Once more we desire to impress upon your minds the impossibility of harmonizing the interests of the ones who receive wages and the ones who pay these wages; as it is to the interest of every man who works for wages to get the full fruits of his toil, while, at the same time it is to the interest of his employer to see that he does not get the full fruits of his toil. To-day, under the capitalist wage system, society is practically divided into two classes, viz.: Those who labor to pay interest, rent and profit, and those who live off from interest, rent and profit, in other words—a fleeced and fleecing class. This does not necessarily imply there is always harmony in the ranks of the fleecers, no more than is there in the ranks of the fleeced. On one thing, however, they, the fleecers, are agreed, and that is that you and your class shall at all times be fleeced. The discord and inharmony always arises as to who of the fleecers shall have the fleece after it has been stripped from the back of the proletaire. This, and this alone, is the bone of contention in the present city campaign between the Republican party and the fusion reform (?) forces. They all, irrespective of political affiliation, are agreed that the working class shall be fleeced, but at the point as to who shall have the fleece, comes the parting of the ways. Never loose sight of the fact that Populism led by Holcomb, Allen, Edgerton, Kent, Howe, Weir, Baker, Miller, Tibble, Blake, Bullock, Craddock, Wolf, Leese and Berge; that free silver Democracy led by Bryan, Worrell, Allen, Hardy and Fleury; that free silver Republicanism led by Rainbolt, Morning, Law, Humphrey and Pace; that Standard Oil Prohibition led by Wolfenbarger, Wycoff, Hardy and Bittenbender; that fiat money Prohibition led by Hawley, Maxwell, Odell and Bently; that gold standard Democracy led by Harwood, Ames, Watson and Sawyer; that straight Republicanism led by Lambertson, Burns, Lindsey, Graham, Raymond, Hall, Dorgan, Beckman, Sullivan, Billingsley, Woodward, Courtney and Winnett—ARE ALL LINKS IN THE SAME SAUSAGE MADE FROM THE SAME CAPITALIST DOG. In other words, they are each and all supporters and defenders of the capitalist system that permits one man to live, without recompense, off the fruits of another man's toil. While the small fry in each of these capitalist organizations fight most strenuously against being robbed and exploited by plutocracy, they at the same time oppose to the bitter end any change in the economic system that prevents their robbing and exploiting all below them in the social scale.

As has been aptly said, all these factions favor horse racing; but the ones led by Messrs. Bryan, Holcomb, Allen, and Law demand that the winning horse (the trust) shall be hamstrung just before he reaches the score.

None of these organizations favors the abolishment of the wage system, that, under capitalism, is the prime cause of the destitution and insecurity of the wage working class, also the prime cause of all the industrial panics of the Nineteenth Century. As through the operation of this wage system, that gives to the working class only 25 per cent. of the value created by their hands and brains, the markets of the world periodically become glutted with the surplus product of the laborers, that they in turn are unable to purchase back, even though they and their families be in a starving condition.

DISFRANCHISEMENT OF THE WORKING CLASS.

All over the United States to-day there is a movement on foot among these same organizations to take from, or at least cripple, the only weapon left to the proletarian class, by which they can successfully defend themselves peacefully against the encroachmentss of capital, viz., the ballot.

In South Carolina Demo-Pop. Tillman and his middle class cohorts have already disfranchised all the propertyless in that State, and the same is true in Mississippi. In Kentucky and New York a movement is now on foot through changing the law relating to primaries, that if passed, will practically disfranchise every wage earner in those States who does not participate in one of the capitalist primaries.

In New Jersey effort is being made, by the Democratic party, to disfranchise all who own no taxable property, and to cap the climax, we find in the NebraskaState Journal of October 20, 1897, an editorial hinting that in cities the most efficient way in the future for the tax payers to protect their property interests against the proletarian or wage earning class will be a property qualification for the rights of municipal franchise. Hence in more ways than one, you can see the above sausage illustration holds good in comparing these different wings of the capitalist army.

THE TAX PAYERS INTEREST.

In the coming campaign doubtless much will be said about the tax payers' interests and great efforts will be made by the property holding classes and their lackeys, the labor fakirs, to convince you, who have no property on which to pay taxes, that it is to YOUR interest to keep down the tax rate. The fact is the wage earner who works and votes for the interest of the tax-payer, hoping thereby to protect and serve the interest of himself and family, only to find after election day his wages reduced or his place usurped by a labor-saving machine, is in much the same attitude as is the wage earner who talks loudly about patriotism and the duty one owes to HIS flag and HIS country, and who goes to war to fight the capitalist battles, only to find that in his absence the patriotic landlord has evicted his family for the non-payment of rent.

We feel confident that when you come to view the question of taxation from your own class interest standpoint, the same as does the property-owning class in every instance, you will readily see that what you and your class wants is not low taxes, but, on the contrary, high taxes, providing the revenue thus raised be expended honestly and judiciously in public improvements, as in this way only can you—under capitalism—secure any benefit whatever from the 75 per cent. of the wealth created by your hands and brains, that has been and is being exploited from you, through the operation of the profit-making wage system, by this same property-owning class, who at all times endeavor to induce you to vote their ticket, under the plea that your and their interests are identical.

MUNICIPAL CORRUPTION.

You are doubtless aware that during the past two months, ostensibly at least, an effort has been made by the Republican council of this city to impeach the Republican Mayor for bribery and corruption in office, and that within the past few days the Grand Jury has found three bills of indictment against the Mayor and two against one member of the Excise Board; you are also doubtless aware that the City Council, by a vote of about 9 to 5 on the 17th ultimo failed to impeach the Mayor, one more vote being needed for the necessary two-thirds majority. As a result of the official corruption that has leaked out during this trial and the failure of the council to impeach the Mayor, a splendid opportunity is now offered the other wings of capitalism to cover up their misdeeds with the mantle of American corruption; hence, without doubt, for the next few days the cry of "Stop, thief!" will resound from the throats of the fusion reform (?) forces all over the city, and heroic attempts will be made by them to make political capital out of these revelations and the final decision of the council in acquitting the Mayor. Already an attempt has been made by these emblems of purity (?) to impress upon your minds that Lincoln has the most corrupt municipal government in the United States, and all that is needed to transform Lincoln into a social Eden is to place the entire control of our city government in the hands of this conglomeration of conflicting interests that styles itself the "reform element."

No greater mistake could be made by you than to suppose that any political combination which upholds and defends the capitalist system, no matter how much it may want to plaster up the putrid sores in its carcass, can or will do away, or even mitigate to any perceptible degree, official corruption.

All these reform and anti-vice associations, like Populism and Prohibition, are simply fighting the parasites that are bred and perpetuated by the present economic system, and while each and every one of them pretend to be fighting the works of the devil, every morning before starting out on their crusade against corruption, sin and vice, they take good care to see that his Satanic Majesty's larder is well filled. In other words, their first and best effort is spent in a defense of the system of wage slavery out of which all these sins and vices logically grow. Instead of recognizing the fact that all that affects man as a social being has evolved out of the economic system under which he has lived, that religions, morality, vice and crime are but the reflex of this system, and the only way to bring a permanent change for the better is to change the present economic system; they prefer to waste their efforts in fighting effects, instead of removing the cause of these effects.

(Continued on Page 3.)

Important to Comrades.

The Bohemian Comrades of Greater New York have decided to start on next May 1 a bona fide Socialist paper in the Bohemian language. This is an important step. The proletariat of Bohemian birth in this city has been trafficked upon by a corrupt paper called "Hlas Lidu", that, bearing the mask of labor, has regularly sold out to labor's foes of all degrees. The sum of $300 is needed to start the paper, and 1,000 subscribers will keep it alive. Its birth and continued existence will be of incalculable benefit to our great cause. Comrades everywhere are requested to aid in this work; where there are Bohemians they should be induced to subscribe. The paper will be named "Pravda" (Truth).

Send contributions and subscriptions to Jaroslav Simon, 308 Sast 71st street, N. Y.

VARIOUS ITEMS.

That Serve As Straws Showing the Direction of the Streem.

The Socialist Labor party municipal campaign of Bridgeport closed on the 4th instant with a signal success for the S. L. P. and a signal confirmation of the wisdom of its tactics. Last year's vote was 86, this April vote was 211.

The campaign, though municipal, was carried on along uncompromising revolutionary lines, and by aggressive New Trade Unionist methods.

The last meeting was rather exciting. The enemy made a display of its "arguments". Comrade Thomas A. Hickey had no sooner started to speak when he received a shower of rotten eggs, while an old German Comrade was struck in the back of the head with a stone. These "arguments" were, however, not considered either sound or conclusive. Just the reverse. Comrade Hickey went on speaking, scoring point after point.

As a very practical bit of work performed that same evening after the meeting was the organization of a Local Alliance, S. T. & L. A., in this town. The first of its kind, but not the last. Of the 12,000 wage slaves in this town there are not 490 organized. The work of the Alliance, so important to the class-consciousness and safety of the Labor movement here, will be pushed with vigor—and success.

* * *

With the official disavowal by the Cigarette Makers, found in D. A. No. 1's report this week, of the false charge made during the late Seidenberg strike, that the Pioneer Cigarmakers had organized expelled members of the Cigarette Makers, the third important falsehood raised in that contest is now nailed.

First Comrade Katz, who was cited by the chairman of the International Strike Committee, Isaac Bennett, as a witness for his assertion that the Pioneer Cigarmakers declared the strike did not concern them, and went in and scabbed, comes out and pointedly denies the truth of this statement.

Second, the claim that the strike was for higher wages is nailed by the fact that the International men have gone in to work at the very jobs that the Pioneers were called "scabs" for.

And now, drops the last falsehood set afloat by the International Strike Committee about the Pioneer men having organized into their body expelled members of a sister Local Alliance.

With the setting of the dust on this whole affair, the Alliance Cigarmakers have a matchless basis for future action. When that time comes something will drop with a heavy thud.

* * *

Printing-house Square in New York, as it looks in these days, should be photographed, and the picture should serve to illustrate a lecture upon "How Material Conditions Affect Morals."

Hundreds upon hundreds of boys all the way from 7 to 14 and 15 years are there seen shoving, screaming, pushing, crowding—to get papers and to sell them.

The special incitement just now is the war fever that the yellow jou rnals have created. These lads huckster about the wildest lies. And, what is more, they become so feverish, not with enthusiasm, but with the anxiety for sensational news, to help sell papers, that, when last week an actual lull occurred in "war scare news", THEY BURNED McKINLEY in EFFIGY!

Will any one deny that such conditions, bringing about such conduct, are not an education of a sort that will do lasting damage to these boys? Within 15 years most of them will be citizens wielding the ballot. What sort of a training are not these future suffragists and fathers of the next generation being put through! Stimulated by capitalist thought, aims and principles, the worst principles in man are thus being developed in them.

* * *

The oft-repeated statement that the pure and simple trade union is not at all a labor organization, but a sort of appendicitis on the capitalist system is as well illustrated this week by the conduct of Typographical Union No. 6 in this city.

The Union swung out for "patriotism", i. e., for war with Spain and "the freedom of Cuba". In itself this fact would not prove the point, although it would prove kindred points. But the fact does prove the point to perfection when it is considered how that action of No. 6 was brought about.

The yellow journals have trunkfuls of "Cuban bonds". These bonds are not worth the paper on which they are printed unless Cuba becomes "free". To insure the "freedom" of Cuba a war between the United States and Spain is indispensable. Hence the yellow journals are bubbling over with a "patriotic" rage for war. In their efforts to foment a war sentiment that the Federal Executive shall not be able to resist, they are getting up war resolutions to order;—and the action of No. 6 was one of these: the compositors on the yellow journals were given the tip and they obeyed. Their union being, not a labor organization, but an appendix to the capitalist class, it readily obeyed the fakir leaders and did what the yellow bosses ordered their employés to do.

If war is declared, and Cuba does become free, the trunk loads of Cuban bonds, held by the yellow journals, will materialize into cash,—a cash that will fall wholly into the hands of the yellow bosses. The yellow bosses' servitors who got their unions to take up the interests of these bosses will have helped to slaughter thousands of their fellow wage earners, and in the end will get a kick—as lackeys always get.

Verily, verily, pure and simpledom is rotten-ripe for the garbage barrel of the Labor movement.

SERIOUS FACTS.

On What is Rational, Practical and Moonshine.

BUFFALO, April 2—As one who until recently was a member of the American Railway Union and knows Mr. Debs inside and out, I wish to state a few facts and submit a few considerations that I consider timely.

I am induced hereto by assertions one sees made by S. Ingerman, of New York, and others, to the effect that the Debs movement is a class-conscious movement, and that it will give powerful aid to the trade union movement. We are also informed from certain quarters that the men who are appearing with Debs on the public platforms are "rational", "practical", etc.

The Silverites, the Single-Taxers, the Anarchists, the Pops, the expelled members of the Socialist Labor party, the "reformers" of all shades, the labor fakirs,—all these noble souls have from time immemorial been the pronounced enemies of a class-conscious movement of the proletariat. For years these people have been jabbering to us on the subject of our "irrational and unpractical" method of propaganda. Closely examined we find that, indeed, those noble souls have in a decidedly "practical" way turned the labor movement to the interests of the capitalists, and that they managed to do that by means of preaching "harmony", "tolerance" and "fusion". That these people ran labor politics in a "rational" way we know but too well. They utilized the instinctive class-consciousness of the workingman to build up unions, and, in the unions, instead of developing and educating this instinct, they sought and succeeded in lulling it to sleep and turning the membership into voting cattle for capitalist politicians. That the so-called Social Democracy seeks to tread that path should not surprise us. It is a case of moonshine to claim to be class-conscious Socialists, and then to go hand in hand with the labor fakirs who oppose the class-conscious tactics of the S. L. P.

As a former member of the A. R. U., I am not a little astonished at the sudden love now displayed by the Debsians for the economic movement. If we compare professions with deeds, we are bound to exclaim—MOONSHINE! Here are the facts:

At the convention of the A. R. U. that met in Chicago on June 15, 1897, Debs and his General Staff strained every effort to dissolve the A. R. U. There he declared that the trade union or economic movement was worthless, colonies should be established; that the members of the A. R. U. were driven out of their jobs; thousands of our members were out of work; the A. R. U. could not furnish work to them, and should, therefore, be dissolved. He then proposed that we retreat into some corner of civilization, establish a group of Socialist colonies, and, with that as a basis, proceed to conquer the political power of the United States. With only three adverse votes the A. R. U. was dissolved. Local Union 79 (Buffalo "shop-men") was the only one that instructed its delegates to preserve the union. A singular system of "strengthening" and "building up" is that which consists in dissolving and breaking down!

It is a fact that the A. R. U. was one of the unions most dread by the capitalist class; well may the railroad magnates have breathed easier when Debs did for them the work that they themselves had not been able to accomplish—the destruction of the A. R. U. In that union, and as a result of the struggles it had to go through, a sense of class-consciousness manifested itself quite plainly, and this sense grew and gathered strength from the conflicts which the union fell into with the fakirs of the old Brotherhoods. All this was lost by the dissolution of the body. Very few of the old A. R. U. people are to-day members of the Debs "Social Democracy". And yet, in sight of these facts, the Debsians dare talk about the class struggle. Whosoever was not equal to struggle for the A. R. U. will not be found capable of strengthening the activity of other unions. It is a clear case of MOONSHINE to substitute such acts with words in favor of the economic organizations.

It is likewise MOONSHINE on the part of the members of the Debs "Social Democracy" to extol the "great organizer's" talent of their chieftain. Where was this talent revealed? By the building of the A. R. U.? Let us look into the facts. The treasonable conduct of the Arthur-Sargeant Brotherhood clique against the switchmen, brakemen and telegraphers had, as a matter of course, created a bitter feeling against the leaders of the engineers and firemen in the breasts of the above-named branches of railroad workers. As the firemen themselves had more than once had occasion to experience the treason of their chief boodlers, the feeling among these also was not favorable to the old régime. The principle of "federation" had played out. When at this season Debs used the popular sentiment and struck the note of centralized organizations embracing all the branches of the trade, he readily found a hearing. He expressed what all the workers in the trade felt to be so. Instead, however, of placing the organization upon a broad democratic basis, he managed it so that the Board of Directors, and especially the President (that is, himself), were clothed with dictatorial powers. Only such people as were wholly to his liking were elected into the Board; all those who did not readily dance to his music were tricked aside and away. Thus we see one after another of the ablest members of the Board dropping out. At the conventions, the order of business was attended to and run in such partisan way. Every measure in the organization was arranged in such way as to make a God out of Debs. Such a state of things had naturally to break down. Only the broadest democratic basis is able to keep a labor organization alive and in fighting trim. This alleged "great organizer's talent", has, however, not yet understood the A B C of the labor movement.

The founding of the Debs "Social Democracy" furnished another clear illustration of the fact that the leaders of the A. R. U. were not equal to their task. Mystical articles appeared in the last issues of the Terre Haute, Ind., "Railway Times", just before the Chicago convention, on the new plan for a panacea, but these articles left the members of the union in the dark upon what was really meant. During the last days of the convention the announcement was made through the capitalist press that: "Eugene V. Debs has discovered the Solution of the Social Question. Great Events Will Transpire in Chicago on June 15. Workingmen of America, your Messiah Has Arrived"!!

Thereupon, after a sufficient feeling in favor of the "plan" had thus been created, Debs took the convention by surprise, leaving no time to any of the delegates to reflect upon his proposition. It was hinted at the A. R. U. was dissolved only in name, not in fact. In that way the "Social Democracy" was organized. The delegates who returned from the convention reported this transformation as an accomplished fact. Of a referendum, not a word; the "kickers" were notified that they needed not join the "Social Democracy". If one wants to call such manœuvres "organizing", he is free to do so. But when such performances are adduced as an evidence of "organizer's talent", one may be pardoned for losing patience. I call it BLUFFING OF THE WORST SORT.

Furthermore, it is all MOONSHINE to try and palm Debs off as a thoroughbred Socialist. The man is a Bourbon of deepest dye. His whole activity within the A. R. U. proved that. Until June 15, Debs held the view that the colored people did not have the right to membership in the organization, of which he was every thing. Can any thinking person expect that this man of a sudden, after that date, will wholly cease to be animated by race prejudices? Can it be expected that the man, who looks upon a large fraction of this our nation as disqualified to enjoy equal rights with others, has all of a sudden ceased to be possessed of race prejudices? Can it be imagined that he has suddenly become internationalist? Can the man who does not even understand that the Republican party fulfilled a historic mission during the civil war, can such a man have understood the historic mission of the Labor movement?

The "Prison-Jubilee" issue of the "Social Democrat" gives a list of books that Debs and the other Directors studied in Woodstock Jail, which books are given in the same issue as the reason why the Debs "Social Democracy" was established. That list contains not one single book that represents what is understood under the "materialist conception of history". Those books are all of the old reform-hunting stripe. Now the same old worn-out flippancies are revamped, and we are told: "Lo, this is Socialism! Lo, we are the American Socialists"!

The Socialists of America decline the favor. They have their organizations in the S. L. P. and the S. T. & L. A. and will wipe out of sight the Debs "Social Democracy", together with all such other bogus organizations.

M. WEBER.

POISONED WATER.

Capitalist Wrecklessness Costs Extensive Loss of Life.

BARRE, Vt., March 26—Last winter a fever epidemic raged in this dirty place, and it is only now dying out. Its cause should be made public. It was impure water. The straining of the capitalist for profits causes him to be ready even to poison people with impure water. We may not speak out too openly against this sort of positive murder, the murderers being "respectable" and powerful, and having their minions in the law offices of this little town, which they keep dirty with impunity, since they live in Springfield, Mass.

But not all of them escaped. Occasionally some of them have to be here, and then several of these plunderers themselves fell victims of the typhus.

The river here resembles an open sewer, and last summer there was a frightful scourge of diphtheria broke out here. How the local medical or "public health" officers did lie about the number of cases. The doctors must live you know. These and undertakers made a good thing of it; not less than fifty children of the working people, out of a population of 10,000, lost their lives. It is a great thing this "beggar my neighbor" system. N. N.

New York Women's Educational Association.

On last March 30 there was organized at the house of Miss Serber an English-speaking society with the name of "Women's Educational Association". The aim and object of this body is to spread a healthy knowledge of social questions among women, and in that way prepare the way for the understanding of Socialism in the homes, also to do practical work during campaigns by means of house to house agitation among women for the Socialist Labor party. As an earnest of the thoroughness of the charter members and their clearness on the issues of the day, as well as a guarantee of the effectiveness of the work of the Association, the platform, constitution and tactics of the Socialist Labor party were cordially endorsed.

All business meetings, lectures and discussions are to be in the English language. Meetings every Tuesday evening at 8 P. M. Monthly dues, 10 cents. The next meeting will be at 1570 Lexington avenue, between 105th and 106th streets, on April 12.

TESSIE ZIPFEL, Secy.,
234 East 83d street.

At a regular meeting of the Tailors' Union, of Richmond, Va., held end of last month, a resolution was unanimously carried to cut loose from the Lennon or National Union. This was done forthwith, and the secretary was ordered to notify the national secretary, Lenpon or National Union. These have their eyes open. They realize that a Lennon or pure and simple union is simply an organization for the benefit of ignorant, corrupt and stupid labor leaders to live on the dues they collect from the members. The union contemplates joining the S. T. & L. A.

* * *

The Italian Longshoremen's Union, situated in Hoboken, N. J., cut loose from the Ed. McHugh organization of pure and simpledom, and joined the D. A. 49 of the S. T. & L. A.

* * *

At the last meeting of the General Executive Board, S. T. & L. A., eleven charter applications were granted, seven being for trade organizations, three for mixed Alliances, and one for a District Alliance in New Bedford.

* * *

SCHENECTADY, N. Y., April 3—On last Thursday evening, Comrade McHeath, who is a pattern maker, went with Comrades Gun, Lake, Norwalk and Vanderporten, of New York, to a meeting that had been called to organize the pattern makers on the pure and simple style. Comrade Vanderporten went with the understanding that the meeting would have to join the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance or throw us out. They threw us out. That is the short of the story. But the following are the interesting details:

We found 30 men at the meeting, besides the organizer of the Pattern Makers' National [illegible] of the Schenecta[illegible] one Mr. Jackson, [illegible] the Aldermanic [illegible] Republican; and a member of the Cigarmakers' International Union named Thornton. These gentlemen opened the ball.

The national organizer called the meeting to order and introduced Fakir No. 1, Alderman Jackson. He said: "We are here to organize the pattern makers. They are helpless here, being unorganized. If you have a union with large funds you can resist reductions. You men who work in the General Electric Works need not have any fear that the company objects to a union. The company loves the union. I am very well acquainted with the superintendent. When he wants machinists he comes to me. I visit him and he visits me. I know the directors prefer to treat with a union. So I must impress upon you the benefit of a union and the absence of danger. The directors see the necessity of drawing closer the bonds of friendship between employer and employé. Everywhere they are going hand in hand with the trade unions. So it comes that strikes are now rarer, simply because men are organized. (He did not explain how, at the mutual visits of the directors and the labor fakirs, the men were sold out, and the labor fakir gets political jobs.) The employer prefers to deal with all the men through committees. Organize. I will now give way to Mr. Thornton, who will tell you what his great organization has done for him.

Fakir No. 2, Mr. Thornton, said: As a cigarmaker, I talk of the benefits of organization. I belong to the greatest trade union on earth. What made us so great is that we pay $1.20 a month dues. Big dues make a big union. So we became great. We have $350,000 in U. S. bonds, and $150,000 in the bank. (He evidently relied upon the ignorance of the pattern makers, who don't know that the "great organization" is bankrupt, so bankrupt that it dared not for the last two years to publish its financial report.) We enter into strikes with $00 and 1,000 men at a time, and win every time (!?!). Why? Because employers fear us. If I am out of work I get $3 a week, if sick $5, and when I die $500. (While he went on blowing and lying in this way, Comrade McHeath put in a few questions, but he refused to answer.)

Then Comrade Vanderporten, who is also a cigarmaker, took the floor. He ripped up the fakirs, showed that organization on their lines was worthless, and that they had been telling a tissue of lies from top to bottom, and he proved it too. While he was showering down his facts, one man jumped up and cried, "Socialist!" The rest took up the cry. They would not allow Vanderporten to proceed. The Alliance and party men thundered out the principles of New Trade Unionism and convicted the fakirs of fraud. The fakirs got afraid of the truth. A motion was made and declared carried to put out our Comrades, and the whole mob jumped up and put them out.

A meeting will now be called by the Alliance to organize the pattern makers and give the fakirs a chance to tell their story. The fur will fly. Already nine names of pattern makers are pledged to form an Alliance. And the thing will be done.

That Thursday's meeting is the talk of the town. The fakirs don't relish it.

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

THE PEOPLE.

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SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888 (Presidential)	2,068
In 1890	13,331
In 1892 (Presidential)	21,157
In 1894	33,133
In 1896 (Presidential)	36,564
In 1897	**55,673**

Two things have I required of Thee; deny me them not before I die: Give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me: Lest I be full and deny Thee, and say, Who is the Lord? or lest I be poor, and steal, and take the name of my God in vain.

Proverbs,
Chapter XXX, 7 9.

Eleanor Marx Aveling, the youngest daughter of Karl Marx, and an enthusiastic apostle in the movement that her father placed upon its present scientific basis, died on the 2d inst. in London.

Her death has thrown grief among all who knew her personally, or through her activity.

ESTABLISHING PRECEDENTS.

The politicians in Congress are certainly just now fulfilling an important mission. No doubt they think so themselves; but the feature of the mission they are fulfilling is that they don't understand it themselves, and that, were they to understand it, they would turn a somersault back, and radically change their attitude.

The present attitude of our Congressmen is, in an important respect, establishing a precedent for the oncoming Social Revolution.

Our Congressmen are declaring that the inhumanity of the Spanish Government towards the Cubans justifies, nay, urges us to step in and wrench the island from the clutches of Spain. In the examination of this position, the correctness or falseness of the facts on which it bases itself is of no account; neither is the sincerity or insincerity with which the facts are alleged of the slightest importance. The all-important point is that, the Congressmen assert the principle that it is right, and a duty to take away the island from Spain as a result of the suffering Spanish ownership inflicts upon the Cubans.

This argument is correct. It is, however, a club that caves in the argument of "CONFISCATION" with which the very class whom these Congressmen represent seek to demonstrate the injustice of Socialism.

Socialism maintains that the ownership of the national machinery of production by the capitalist class inflicts upon the large majority of the people, the working class, such misery that it brands it inhuman. This fact no intelligent man does deny, if he is truthful, or no truthful man if he is intelligent. Socialism, then, goes further. It points out that, to redress the wrong, the instrument whereby the wrong is done must be wrenched from the capitalist class—just as now Cuba from Spain, and placed in the hands of the working class—just as Cuba in the hands of the Cubans. At this point the capitalist class rears. "There may or may not be inhuman suffering inflicted upon the working class", say they; "the cause of that may or may not be our ownership of the machinery of production", they add; "but, be that as it may", they conclude, "the Socialist plan is not to be considered because it infringes upon our vested rights, it is CONFISCATION".

Confiscation or no confiscation, vested rights or no vested rights, and whether Congress proceeds or not to put its principle in practice by war, it has well argued in favor of, and has placed itself squarely upon a principle that the Social Revolution stands upon. Thus this Congress has, despite itself, hewn a big granite block for the foundation of the acts that the people's representatives, carrying their mandates from the victoriuos Socialist Labor party, will ere long set in operation.

That system, that enables wrong to be perpetrated on the people, the people have a right and a duty to pull down; and, in the language of Thomas Skidmore, capital being like a pistol in the hand of a highwayman, it may and must be wrenched from the class that holds it, on the same principle that the pistol would be wrenched from the highwayman—whether he yells "Confiscation!" or not.

ONWARD TOWARD DISFRANCHISEMENT.

One more evidence has been turned in of the intention on the part of our ruling class to circumvent the suffrage. It is the bill presented by the House Committee of Congress to extend the term of members of the House of Representatives to four years; this move implies a lengthening of the term of Senators from six to eight or ten years. It is worth while enumerating the various approaches that are being made to the point of total disfranchisement of the working class.

First—A property qualification disguised by an educational clause in South Carolina, Mississippi and Louisiana;

Second—A property qualification undisguised for municipal elections in Rhode Island;

Third—A ballot law that requires extraordinary efforts to get a ticket before the people. In some States, as in Ohio, and Minnesota, these efforts and necessary expenses are such as to be most difficult to overcome;

Fourth—A primary law scheme in New York and California intended to exclude the workers from the primaries, and thus bring about a condition of things that will place the workers in the alternative of not voting at all, or voting for what they don't want; and

Fifth—A number of bills that extend the terms of Legislatures and officers, thus reducing the opportunities for a popular choice of the Government.

If the working class does not hurry up and class-consciously takes possession of the Government, it will find itself stripped of the ballot, and reduced to the necessity of employing physical force to redress the wrongs that weigh upon it.

On to the ballot box! must be the cry of all intelligent members of the proletariat.

THE USES OF BLOW-HOLES.

The silence of Mr. Andrew Carnegie in these feverish days of plentiful and warlike patriotic talk must have surprised not a few. Whenever there has been the slightest occasion for an "interview", a "magazine article", or a "speech" on some "burning question" of the day, Mr. Carnegie has regularly been found frontmost in the front ranks; even when there was no occasion of itself, he would furnish one: an invitation from some college, society, or some such concern would be brought about, and Mr. Carnegie would then orate. The contrast between his usual eagerness to speak and his present reticence is surely striking. Whence does it proceed, what is it ascribable to?

It proceeds from and is ascribable to BLOW-HOLES.

The moment the war scare started, Mr. Carnegie felt sick in the stomach. It will be remembered that Mr. Carnegie's concern got the contract to supply our navy with armor plate, and it will not have been forgotten that the same was found full of blow-holes and other blemishes that, rather then repel, invited the transit of hostile missiles. With patriotic capitalist devotion, he swindled the Government, patriotically making large profits by the operation. Our blow-hole navy was a beautiful sight to behold; it was redoubtable in appearance; swaggerishness-inspiring; and the theme of bravado speeches without end. But as a weapon of defence for the nation, let alone of offence, it was not worth much. How little it was good for in that capacity none knows so well as the patriot bourgeois who got the contract to build it; and how thoroughly convinced they are of its unfitness for anything but show and bluster may be judged from Mr. Carnegie's tomb-like silence in these days of feverish patriotism.

War is at best a horrible necessity. The only thing to justify it would be the noblest of aims.

If a war were pending to blow into eternity that social system that consigns a nation's marines to the most dangerous part of a ship so that explosions kill them by the hundreds and leave hardly touched the swaggering officers, as happened with the Maine, one might rest content;

If a war were pending to bring freedom, not the mock freedom of the capitalist régime, to an oppressed people, one might feel inspired;

But to fan the flames of war for the purpose of killing off the "superfluous" members of our working class, and to rivet more firmly upon our own people the yoke of capitalist slavery, while carrying such slavery into Cuba,—and to do all that under the pretence of humanity and liberty, as is the case just now, is an act of refined barbarism.

That the flame of war is not fed by the additional voice of Mr. Carnegie, quite a strong bellows at such seasons and for such purposes, one may be devoutly thankful for; and this is due to the blow-holes he sold to our navy. He now fears that the true inwardness of his patriotism may be exposed by the rude cannon balls of the Spaniards.

Truly, even the worst things have their uses—blow-holes included.

POLITICAL and ECONOMIC

It is a well-known adage that when rogues fall out honest people come by their own. In the wrangle between the capitalists, the watchful working class is coming in possession of valuable facts. This is just now happening on the subject of patriotism.

The Chicago "Record", evidently unfavored with the grease that oils the wheels of patriotism, gives this valuable bit of information:

"Cuban bonds are among the greatest embarrassment felt by the President in dealing with Spain. Many of the bonds have been given away to Cuban sympathizers, and millions have been sold for 3, 4, 5, and 10 cents on the dollar to raise funds to carry on the war. The members of the Junta have trunks full of them, and it is said nobody knows the amount outstanding."

What a flood of light does not this simple passage shed upon the sources of the tears of tearful Senators on the woes of Cuba; of the fiery war oratory of impassioned patriots; of the warm breath for war of prancing generals, admirals, etc.; of the patriotic hysterics of our patriotic press!

The "Law and Order" tune to which the working class is fleeced in factories, is turned into and is the counterpart of the "Patriotism" tune with which the capitalist class manages to get the workers to die on battle fields so that their bonds may ripen into premiums.

The Cleveland, O., "Citizen" announces that the Cleveland Democracy has kicked out the Populists, saying of them:

"The Populists are the driftwood of the Democratic party. With every spring freshet they get soaked with water, swell up, and come to surface. Some of these ignorant kickers believe they are still prominent, and think they must open their mouths and yap."

This kick administered by the Cleveland Democracy to the Populists seems to have been so vigorous as to throw them across the Michigan Peninsula and several lakes right into the arms of the less experienced Republicans in Milwaukee. Populism there, and the driftwood that makes it up, calls itself "Social Democracy"; it has set up a municipal ticket; and, so fully is it appreciated as a stool pigeon, that the Milwaukee Republican officials have, contrary to all law, given it a place among the regular parties and are booming it for all they are worth in their local press.

The election returns may disenchant the Republicans. At any rate, the S. L. P. municipal ticket of Milwaukee can not fail to be aided by the fraternal embrace with which the Republican politicians are seen to hug the driftwood of Populism, now dubbed "Social Democracy".

LETTER BOX.

Offhand Answers to Inquirers.

H. P., N. Y.—We know of no work that will enable one to intelligently uphold in a debate the negative of a resolution that machinery is beneficial to the workingman. Such a resolution means that, inherent in the machine, there is nothing hurtful to the workingman, and that machinery is big with blessings for the worker. He who holds or tries to hold up, the negative side must limit himself to the destructive effects of machinery upon the workingmen UNDER THE CAPITALIST SYSTEM, and then he would not be proving his case—"the evils of machinery upon the workers"—, he would be proving the evils of the capitalist system of ownership of the machine. For the evils of machinery under the capitalist system of private ownership, see the census reports that point out the numbers of unemployed brought on by the machine, the increasing share of labor's product that is taken by the capitalist class, etc., etc. The files of THE PEOPLE may be consulted to advantage on all these subjects.

C. H. B., Providence, R. I., and D. G., Boston.—Yes, he is the same man; that makes Rudolf Modest No. 2.

W. J. S., Utica, N. Y.—The first prerequisite to make a Socialist is the capacity to see facts and the willingness to adhere to them without qualification. The person who says the middle class is the largest and most important of all classes, lacks that prerequisite. The middle class, in point of numbers, is barely 39 per cent. of our population; in point of significance it is a drag upon civilization. It seeks to perpetuate the system of small production of a hundred years ago in the interest of its own class, and, aping the upper capitalist class, it poses dishonestly before the working class as its liberator, while in fact it only seeks its own liberation with the working class as a footstool.

P. S., St. Paul, Minn.—There is no foundation in truth for the statement contained in the clipping from the Chicago, Ill., "Social Democrat" that "the S. L. P. of Paterson, N. J., tendered a reception to Debs and Kelliher", etc. We forwarded to Paterson the subject of your inquiry, and have before us a full and emphatic denial, which is condensed in its first lines as follows: "The Socialist Labor party, Section Paterson, is not in the reception business, and has given none." There will be no Carey in Paterson.

GRACE AFTER MEAT.

[Written for THE PEOPLE by Peter E. Burrowes.]

Hurrah! for the vile politician,
For the honor and shame that are gone;
For the sneer at our starving condition.
They're leading us on.

Hurrah! for the gold bugs; the gamblers!
For fortunes most shamelessly won;
For Senate and Congress dissemblers.
They're leading us on.

Hurrah! for the martyrs before us;
We'll know you, brave comrades, anon!
When mankind shall join in the chorus:
They were leading us on.
Leading, leading; all of them
Leading
Us
On!

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

THE EVOLUTION OF THE BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

[From London, Eng., Social Democrat.—By A Practical Bootmaker.]

In but a limited number of industries is witnessed within one generation such a transformation as has taken place in the boot and shoe trade. The natural conservatism of the British manufacturer has had to give way before the threatened inrush of American machine-made shoes, and to-day in England boot-making takes a foremost place in the evolution of trades.

The shoemaker's seat has given way to the modern factory, his few and simple tools to complex machinery, and what was a few years ago a pure handicraft, requiring great skill and furnishing full scope for individuality in make and finish, is now a mechanical process with its inevitable division and subdivision of labor.

When the first instalment of machinery that was ultimately to revolutionize the trade was put down (some fifteen years ago) I can well remember the incredulous smile upon the faces of such of the gentle craft as were privileged to inspect its working, and can still recall the explosive and facetious expletives which garnished their assurances that "they will never get machines to do our work."

But the impossible has again happened. Machinery has come in earnest, and come to stay.

Take the finishing department, where certainly the obstacles to be overcome seemed the greatest. A few years ago the finisher was the autocrat (as the clicker is the aristocrat) of the trade, and in busy seasons he used to lead the foremen a very pretty dance.

The system of classing the work according to quality used to furnish finishers with unlimited scope for the exercise of their peculiar power. Many a time and oft within the personal knowledge of the writer, have finishers gone home without work sooner than take a class lower than they felt themselves qualified to finish. But the scene soon changed. From the busy brain of the American had even then evolved the machines destined to remove the autocrat from his throne, and, taking advantage of the men's demand for the abolition of home work, the employers were able, despite the opposition of the unions, to introduce the team system of machines; and it is no exaggeration to say that scores of finishers to-day are out of work in the shoe centres who will never see a job in the boot trade again. Nor is the pressure felt only by the finishers alone, although perhaps the economic change is felt more keenly by them than by any other section. Silently but swiftly is the process of evolution penetrating even to the sacred clicking board, and the preliminary failures which are such an inexhaustible source of delight to clickers are only laying the foundation to ultimate success.

From the gentle disciple of St. Crispin, with his bristles and wax, to the modern boot factory, with an output of 30,000 pairs of boots and shoes per week, seems a far cry, but the transformation was as sudden as unexpected.

The first change was wrought by the introduction of the sewing machine, and notwithstanding the efforts of the workers, who sought by strikes and threats of machine-smashing to prevent the innovation, the hand closing of uppers was superceded, and has become almost obsolete. Then came the style of make known as rivetted; rude, and, in its elementary stage, almost shapeless. This laid the foundation for a long series of inventions too numerous to detail here. Every fresh invention necessitated further division of labor, and to-day it is estimated that it takes sixty persons—men, women, and children, aided by machinery at every operation—to perform the task of making a pair of boots.

The economic result of all this change is that the same number of men are able to turn out about 25 per cent. more work. About 15 per cent. of the men are displaced, 5 per cent. permanently. By the large firms laying down complete plants of machinery, the smaller firms are becoming gradually extinct, or confining themselves to the commoner makes. The union statements of wages, established at a tremendous cost in time and money, have become practically useless, and the last great lockout has proved to all who have eyes to see the futility of even the union itself when opposed to federated capital. It is true that the union has the power to claim the minimum wage for its members, but the employer can discharge the employee if he does not wish to pay him the minimum, and thus evade his responsibility.

Home work is practically abolished, except in cases of old age, infirmity, or chronic illness, and work is now done in clean, healthy workshops, where good sanitary conditions prevail. Though, on the whole, this change may be said to be beneficial, the continual vibration made by the machines must be physically deteriorating, and the drain on the sick fund of the union is greater now than it has ever been.

Bitter complaints are heard, too, from the men of the driving by the foremen, of the "hustling" of the teams by "pacemakers", and the continual cry of the employer, "We want more work, or you will have to go." Want of employment has become chronic, and great difficulty is experienced by the larger firms in getting sufficient orders to keep their "hands" employed. The struggle for existence gets keener and keener, a regular job more and more difficult to obtain.

So the Juggernaut car of progress rolls on, bringing misery where it should bring happiness. Increased uncertainty of existence instead of plenty for all. Making increased productive powers but serve to accentuate the poverty of the workers, but (blessed consolation!) also narrowing down the economic difficulties, and bringing us still nearer to the collectivist state.

The English translation of Karl Marx' "Eighteenth Brumaire," that recently ran through THE PEOPLE, is frontispiece. This work is of great value. No Socialist, even though he be no student, and no student even though he be no Socialist, can afford to be without it. Apply Labor News Co., 64 E. 4th street, N. Y. city. Price 25 cents.

UNCLE SAM & BROTHER JONATHAN.

Brother Jonathan—I have joined the "Tax Reformers' League of Tax-payers."

Uncle Sam—What on earth have you, a workingman, got to do with tax reform and tax-payers!?

B. J.—Am I not a tax-payer?

U. S.—Not that I know of.

B. J.—Why, of course, I am!

U. S.—Do you own land?

B. J.—Go away, no!

U. S.—Do you own houses?

B. J.—Stop your guying, of course not!

U. S.—Do you own any other property on which taxes are levied, say jewelry, fine furniture, machinery—

B. J.—Now, don't go on that way; you know I am as poor as a church mouse.

U. S.—Which is another way of saying as poor as a workingman or a wage slave, eh?

B. J.—Yes, certainly.

U. S.—This being thus, what do you pay taxes on, pray?

B. J.—Am I not a workingman?

U. S.—Yes.

B. J.—Is not Labor the sole producer of all wealth?

U. S.—Yes.

B. J.—Are not taxes wealth?

U. S.—Yes.

B. J.—Why, then, it follows that I as a member of Labor pay the taxes, and that lower taxes will make me better off.

U. S.—Oho! Did you read the account of our employers' ball last week, how my employer's wife had a diamond necklace on worth $5,000?

B. J.—Yes, and MY employer's wife had on a Brussels lace bodice worth $6,500.

U. S.—Are that diamond necklace and that Brussels lace bodice wealth or not?

B. J.—Wealth, of course.

U. S.—Produced by labor or produced by capital?

B. J. (with a look of disgust)—"By capital"? Of course not, by labor!

U. S.—Now, suppose that your employer and mine had not bought that necklace and bodice, would you and I be in the amount of money they cost? Would we be the possessors of that $11,500? Would our wages have gone up any higher?

B. J. (scratches his ears, and after meditating a while, during which a drop of perspiration appears on his forehead)—No. We would not have been in that much more money. Our wages would not have been any higher. We would have been just as badly off as we now are. It would have made no difference to us.

U. S.—And yet that necklace and bodice are wealth, and, as such, are the produce of labor.

B. J.—Yes, they are.

U. S.—Would you in the face of these facts say that, seeing luxury is wealth and labor produces all wealth, therefore, you pay for luxury, and lower or less luxury will make you better off?

B. J.—I wish there were something around here that I could sit on. I feel my head swimming.—This thing looks mixed up.—Let me see.—As Labor produces all wealth, and diamond necklaces and Brussels lace bodices are wealth, it does seem as if Labor paid for them.—But yet,——

U. S.—Go on: guess you are on the right track——

B. J.—And yet I feel mixed up.—Let me see.—If I am the man who pays for a thing, then it must follow that if the thing is not bought, I have not paid for it, and I must be in the money that the thing would have cost.

U. S.—Correct! Go on, me boy, you are doing first rate, though rather slow; go on!

B. J.—If, then, I am no more money in pocket in case the thing was not bought,—then (very deliberately)—I CAN'T BE THE ONE THAT PAYS FOR IT! Ain't it?

U. S.—Just so. Go on!

B. J.—I can't. Here I am stuck fast. Help me out, if you can. I feel like one sinking in quick sands.

U. S.—Just hook on to me and I'll pull you out. If I go faster than you can hang on, sing out, and I will slack up. Now, listen. Your pickle comes, first, from the wrong, the misleading use you make of the word PAY. Now, hold tight! Does a man pAY out of what he HAS NOT, or out of what HE HAS?

B. J.—How can a man pay out of what he has not? He pays, of course, out of what he has.

U. S.—Correct.—Now, did we ever have in our hands the $11,500 that our employers expended in Brussels lace bodices and diamond necklaces?

B. J. (decidedly hot in the collar)—Did we? No, by thunder!

U. S.—I am glad of your emphasis. Now, stick a pin there. We did not pay for them for the simple reason that we did not have the wealth to pay with. This clears up the point why less luxuries enjoyed by the employer does not mean more wealth left to us. Whether the employer indulges in luxuries or not, and whether he drops one sort of luxury and changes it for another, we are no poorer and no richer, because these luxuries are paid for by wealth that never was in our hands.

B. J.—That's certainly so.

U. S.—Now, hold tight again. We are now approaching the roughest part of the road. Our capitalist employer does not work; consequently, he does not produce any wealth. Nevertheless, he has all the wealth needed to buy luxuries with. As labor is the sole producer of all wealth, and our employer, who is an idler, can not produce any, it follows that the wealth he buys the luxuries with he must have gobbled up from us, his workingmen, who produced it.

B. J.—Just so!

U. S.—Hold tight! Here we are face to face with the central problem. We are the sole producers of all wealth; the employer, despite his being an idler, has the bulk of it, to pay with for luxuries. He must have gobbled it up, and from us. But it never was in our hands. Where, when and how did he do the gobbling up? Upon the correct answer to this question depends the solution of the problem, and the wisdom or the folly of much of the tactics of the Labor movement.

B. J.—Yes; WHERE, WHEN, and HOW?

U. S.—Where?—IN THE SHOP. When?—ON PAY-DAY. How?—THROUGH THE SYSTEM OF CAPITALISM OR WAGE SLAVERY. The wages we are given are only a small part of the wealth we produce. These wages represent the price of our labor in the market. Labor, under this system of wage slavery, is not considered a human being at all; it is only a merchandise. The value of all merchandise depends upon the cost of production. So with us, the merchandise Labor. Our price, that is our wages, is simply the cost of keeping us alive and able to procreate. This is the law of wages; and thus it comes that although we produce all the stupendous wealth of the nation, our share is small; and that just in proportion to the increased wealth we produce our share becomes smaller.

B. J.—Heaven knows, that's so!

U. S.—Now you know the WHERE, WHEN and HOW of the gobbling up.

B. J.—Yes.

U. S.—Knowing it, you can no longer feel stuck at the sight of the fact that although we are the sole producers of all the wealth, we do not PAY for the luxuries that our employers indulge in. Those luxuries ARE paid for with wealth that we produce, but they are not paid for by US because the wealth that buys them is stolen from us before it reaches our hands; they are paid for by the employer out of that portion of our product that is stolen from us anyhow.

B. J.—But——

U. S.—One moment. You may consider this position too technical to be worth insisting on—

B. J.—That's just what I was going to say.

U. S.—Nevertheless, it is important for several reasons. It follows from that strict statement:

1. That whether the employer is a spendthrift or a miser, we are no better and no worse off;

2. That, by knowing the exact place where we are robbed, we will not spend our efforts in wrong directions trying to better ourselves.

Apply these principles to the question of taxation, and you will soon realize their far-reaching importance.

B. J. puckers up his brows.

U. S.—All the wages of the whole working class, put together, will not come anywhere near the amount of the taxes paid in the land. For the same reason that we could not have paid for the diamond necklaces and Brussels lace bodice of our employers' wives, the working class can not have paid these taxes. From year end to year end, it never had that amount of money or wealth in its hands to pay with.

Secondly, the share of the wealth that the workingman enjoys depends upon the law of wages, which you now know is regulated by the cost of production, just as with any other merchandise. Lower the cost of the necessaries of labor, and it follows the price of labor will sink proportionally. Lower taxes lower the cost of the necessaries of labor, consequently low taxes will send still lower down the percentage of the share that Labor will keep, under this capitalist system, of the fruit of its toil.

Say that the workingman needs just one loaf of bread to live. If that loaf of bread costs 5 cents, his wages must be 5 cents; he produces 100 cents' worth of wealth, out of that he receives the 5 cents for the loaf, and the employer keeps 95 cents profits.

Say the cost of the loaf is raised to 25 cents because of a tax of 20 cents on it. The cost of Labor now becomes 25 cents and his wages must rise to that point or he dies. What is the situation? The worker produces 100 cents, receives 25 cents as wages; he is no better off than before, because that 25 cents can only pay for one loaf, just as the 5 cents did before. But the employer only keeps 75 cents profits, whereas before he made 95 cents; who paid the taxes, you or he?

B. J.—He, by Jericho!

U. S.—And say that taxation is lowered and the loaf costs only one cent. Will you be in 24 cents? No. As the cost of labor has come down to 1 cent, 1 cent will have to be your wages, while the employer will then make 99 cents profits. Are you in either case better off or worse?

B. J.—In no way. But why then all this row about taxation?

U. S.—The row is between the capitalists. It is a row as to which set of them will preserve the largest share of the hide of the workers. The politicians, for instance, want higher taxes, because then they will have high salaries and perquisites; but the "reformers" want low taxes, because that means that they will keep themselves a larger share of the profits they have skinned the workers out of and that otherwise would go to the politicians, and so on.

B. J. (smiting himself on the forehead)—Heavens, how those reformers have played me for a sucker!

U. S.—No doubt they have.

B. J.—All their jabber about Labor being crushed by taxes was pure bunco!

U. S.—Nothing else. By understanding that Labor is robbed in the shop, the voter will devote his energies to vote himself into the possession of the shop; he will not be caught in the trap of the lie that HE pays the taxes; he will not be the cat's-paw for "reformers" and other capitalist swindlers. That is why it is so important to emphasize the fact that, under this capitalist system, Labor does not pay the taxes, but they are paid out of that part of the product of Labor that the working class is robbed of anyhow by the capitalist class.

B. J. (as mad as he can stick)—The first reformer or his heeler who talks taxation to me will get his nose punched.

U. S.—Won't do him any harm.

„Down with Slavery"

THE GREATEST REVOLUTIONARY SONG EVER WRITTEN.

Words by Percy B. Shelly. Music by Platon Brounoff. Every comrade should secure a copy. PRICE 10 CENTS. Address

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THE NEW AGE.

[From Volney's "Ruins."]

Scarcely had he finished these words when a great noise arose in the west, and turning to that quarter, I perceived, at the extremity of the Mediterranean, in one of the nations of Europe, a prodigious movement—such as when a violent sedition arises in a vast city—a numberless people, rushing in all directions, pour through the streets and fluctuate like waves in the public places. My ears struck with the cries which resounded to the heavens, distinguished these words:

"What is this new prodigy? What cruel and mysterious scourge is this? We are a numerous people, and we want hands! We have an excellent soil, and we are in want of subsistence! We are active and laborious, and we live in indigence! We pay enormous tributes, and we are told they are not sufficient! We are at peace without, and our persons and property are not safe within! Who, then, is the secret enemy that devours us?"

Some voices, from the midst of the multitude, replied: "Raise a discriminating standard, and let all those who maintain and nourish mankind by useful labors gather round it, and you will discover the enemy that preys upon you."

The standard being raised, this nation divided itself at once into two unequal bodies of a contrasted appearance: One, innumerable, and almost total, exhibited in the general poverty of its clothing, in its emaciated appearance and sunburnt faces, the marks of misery and labor; the other, a little group, an imperceptible faction, presented, in its rich attire, bedaubed with gold and silver, and in its sleek and ruddy faces the signs of leisure and abundance.

Considering these men more attentively, I found that the great body was composed of farmers, artificers, merchants, all professions useful to society, and that the little group was made up of the ministers of worship of every order (monks and priests), of financiers, nobles and men in livery, of the commanders of troops, and other hireling agents of government.

These two bodies being assembled face to face, and regarding each other with astonishment, I saw indignation and rage arising in one side and a sort of panic in the other; and the larger said to the smaller body:

"Why are you separate from us? Are you not of our number?"

"No," replied the group: "you are the people; we are a privileged class, who have our laws, customs and rights peculiar to ourselves."

People—"And what labor do you perform in our society?"

Privileged Class—"None; we are not made to work."

People—"How, then, have you acquired these riches?"

Privileged Class—"By taking the pains to govern you."

People—"What! We toil, and you enjoy! We produce, and you dissipate! Wealth proceeds from us; you absorb it, and you call this governing! —Privileged class, distinct body not belonging to us, form your nation apart, and we shall see how you will subsist."

Then the smaller group, deliberating on this new state of things, some just and generous men among them said: "We must join the people and bear our part of the burden, for they are men like us, and our riches come from them." But others arrogantly exclaimed: "It would be a shame, an infamy, for us to mingle with the crowd; they are born to serve us. Are we not the noble and pure descendants of the conquerers of this empire? This multitude must be reminded of our rights and its own origin."

The Nobles—"People! know you not that our ancestors conquered this land, and that your race was spared only on condition of serving us? This is our social compact!—this the government constituted by custom and prescribed by time."

People—"O, conquerers, pure of blood! Show us your genealogies! We shall then see if what in an individual is robbery and plunder can be virtuous in a nation."

And forthwith voices were heard in every quarter calling out the nobles by their names; and relating their origin and parentage, they told how the grandfather, great grandfather, or even father, born traders and mechanics, after acquiring wealth in every way, had purchased their nobility for money: so that but very few families were really of the original stock. "See," said these voices, "see these purse-proud commoners who deny their parents! See these plebian recruits who look on themselves as illustrious veterans!"—and peals of laughter were heard.

To stifle them, some astute men cried out: "Mild and faithful people, acknowledge the legitimate authority: the king wills, the law ordains."

People—"Privileged class, explain the word legitimate: if it means conformable to intrinsic in the law, say who made the law? Can the law ordain anything else than the preservation of the multitude?"

Then the military governors said: "The multitude will only submit to force; we must chastise them. Soldiers, strike this rebellious people!"

People—"Soldiers! you are of our blood! Will you strike your brothers, your relations? If the people perish, who will nourish the army?"

And the soldiers, grounding their arms, said: "We are likewise the people; show us the enemy!"

Then the ecclesiastical governors said: "There is but one resource left: the people are superstitious; we must frighten them with the name of God and religion."

"Our dear brethren! Our children! God has ordained us to govern you."

People—"Show us your powers from God!"

Priests—"You must have faith; reason leads astray."

People—"Do you govern without reason?"

Priests—"God commands peace: religion prescribes obedience."

People—"Peace supposes justice; obedience implies conviction of a duty."

Priests—"Suffering is the business of this world."

People—"Show us the example."

Priests—"Would you live without gods or kings?"

People—"We would live without oppressors."

Priests—"You must have mediators, intercessors."

People—"Mediators with God, and with the king! Courtiers and priests, your services are too expensive: we will henceforth manage our own affairs."

And then the little group said:

"All is lost! The multitude is enlightened."

And the people answered:

"All is safe! Since we are enlightened, we will commit no violence; we only claim our rights. We feel resentments; but we forget them: we were slaves—we might command; but we only wish to be free, and liberty is but justice."

MANIFESTO.

(Continued from Page 1.)

The fact is that our present municipal government is no worse than ninety per cent. of all municipal governments under the capitalist system. Neither is it any more corrupt than it has been for years. For years and years the saloon men, gamblers, prostitutes—the so-called vicious element, has been blackmailed by our city government, and the same is true of nearly all other cities where the capitalist system prevails. The only difference between the present "wide open" administration under Graham and the preceding reform (?) administration under Weir is that the prostitutes under reform were bled to the tune of $14 per month, while under the present, they are held up for $6.50 per month; the inference is that the saloons and gamblers were permitted to do business on the same per centage under each respective administration. While the evidence in this trial shows that in this city a job on the police force costs only $50, in San Francisco a job on the force in Chinatown is listed at $500. While here the evidence shows that the Chief of Police pays only $525 wholesale for the right to farm the prostitutes, gamblers and saloon men retail, and can hardly make an honest living at that; in San Francisco the Chief of Police paid thousands for the same right, and was able to clear up $100,000 in a few years out of the job.

So long as capitalism exists, the effects of capitalism, murder, theft, prostitution, drunkenness, embezzlement, poverty, misery and corruption in office—must continue to exist, and none knows this better than these same fleecing factions that are now bidding so vigorously for your vote.

So long as legalized gambling, or, in other words, business continues, so long will poker, three-card monte and the wheel of fortune prevail; so long as whole communities are engaged in robbery retail, and in turn are being held up wholesale for millions by more powerful robbers, viz., the trust and corporation, so long will petit larceny, petit burglary, prevail; so long as men are elected to office with the distinct understanding that their prime duty is to their patron, the capitalist class, and that at all times property interests must stand paramount to humanity's interests, so long will these same officials look out for the main chance; so long as the conditions are such that it is impossible for a candidate to secure the nomination from any dominant capitalist party for State, city or county treasurer without first making pre-election pledges that will make him a candidate for the penetentiary if he carries them out, so long will there be Hills, Bartleys, Scotts, Cobbs, Moores and lesser fry, with their shortages of $500,000, $250,000, $130,000, $40,000, $20,000, etc., etc.

IMPORTANT ECONOMICALLY.

Again we say, these conditions and these men are but the logical product of the capitalist system—that at all times places a discount on virtue and a premium on vice—the same as is the Magdalene who has been forced into her present position because she could not maintain herself on the $3 per week paid her by the fashionable dry goods or department store.

In the light of events during the past few years, you must by this time see that strikes and boycotts, as only means of defense, for you and your class, against the encroachments of your exploiters, the capitalist class, have become inefficient, in fact useless. Nine months ago the engineers of England, the richest trade union organization in the world, with a reserve fund of $5,000,000, went out on a strike, but after a struggle of nearly eight months, in which they spent all their reserve fund and thousands of dollars contributed by the Socialists and other organizations throughout the world, they were finally whipped into line on the terms laid down by the masters. In this country you have as object lessons the strikes on the B. & M., also the ones at Homestead, Coeur d'Alene, Buffalo, Brooklyn, Chicago, Leadville, Hocking Valley, Hazleton and many others, in all of which contests the strikers have been starved into submission, as a rule, within sixty days. And the present strike at New Bedford, Mass., will without doubt end in the same way.

SUPREME POLITICALLY.

Should you look the situation squarely in the face, you will find the proletarian class in this country has only one effective weapon left with which to protect its interests, and that weapon is the class-conscious Socialist ballot, that is at all times used by the class-conscious proletair to pull down the capitalist wage system, that is based upon the private ownership of the instruments of production and distribution, and to substitute for this system of exploitation the Co-operative Commonwealth, that will have for its basis the collective ownership of all the instruments of production and distribution.

For the working class to-day to attempt to fight the capitalist class with capital is suicidal, as the capitalists have a thousand dollars to their one. On the economic battlefield alone you are impotent; but on the political battlefield, when united, you are supreme, as on the latter field you have at least five votes to your exploiter's one. Hence, is it not clear that to protect your interest and the interest of your class you should vote the Socialist ticket in the present municipal election?

Fraternally yours,
SEC. LINCOLN, S. L. P.

April 1, 1898.

Daily People Minor Fund.

Previously acknowledged	$2,192.38
Frank Krabishek, Seymour, Conn.	.50
J. A. Norton, Bridgeport, Conn.	1.32
George Rose, Stamford, Conn.	.10
B. Herzog, Grafton, W. Va.	.50
Wm. Adams, Wilmerding, Pa.	.25
L. Morel, New York City	.50
Total	$2,195.55

HENRY KUHN, Fin. Secy.

MIDDLEMEN & MIDDLE CLASS.

Two Terms that upset the Uninformed and Unguarded.

Pursuant to a request, that comes from many sides, the below article is reproduced from our issue of last March 6:

The following pasages occur in a recent issue of the Girard, Kan., "Appeal to Reason":

"The farmer, unless he is a large employer of labor, is not of the middle class."

"The middle class is that one which, properly speaking, stands between the producer and the consumer, demanding toll, in the name of 'profit', and for his living, extortionately above the cost of exchanging commodities."

The first passage indicates that for an employer to be of the "middle class" he must be a large employer of labor. The fact is just the reverse: A large employer of labor must necessarily be a holder of large capital; whether he be farmer or otherwise, he can not be a "large employer of labor" unless the capital he controls is considerable; such holdings are necessarily large enough to place him in the upper class or capitalist class proper.

The second passage, however, throws the matter into still greater confusion. According thereto the "middle class" is the class of the exchangers of commodities—the "middle men"—an absurdity; that absurdity is made still worse by putting into the middle class the farmer who is a large employer of labor, when, in fact, such farmer is not a middle man at all, and surely not a "middle class" man.

A completer economic "pi" than that presented by the two passages above quoted can hardly be imagined. It jumbles up the "middle class" and the "middle man", it confounds the principle of economic classes with the several functions of "production" and "distribution"; and it leaves its readers in such a hopeless state of confusion, both on principles and aims, that the average reader may, after reading them, doubt whether he stands on his head or on what.

The "middle class" is that subdivision of society that, like the upper class, holds in private ownership things necessary to produce and exchange with; the railroads, factories, mines, retail shops, etc., etc., in short, Capital. What marks the "middle class" and the upper is the size, and, consequently, the economic power of their respective holdings; the former's holdings are not large enough to enable it to compete with the latter, and hence it is gradually being bankrupted and thrown into the class of the proletariat that is wholly stripped of ownership in that requisite machinery. Consequently, the New Bedford manufacturers (who hold instruments of production) as well as Wannamaker (who holds instruments of exchange or distribution) are both capitalists; as both hold large holdings, rendering competition harder and harder to small manufacturers and smaller retailers, both are upper capitalists; and yet the one's holdings are in machinery of production, and he is called a "producer", while the other's holdings are in the machinery of exchange and distribution, and he is a "middle man".

Thus we see that the "middle class" is one thing, the "middle man" is another. The "middle class" is a subdivision of society upon economic class interests; the "middle man" is a subdivision not of the whole of society, but of both the two property-holding classes—capitalist and middle class; is a subdivision based, not upon economic class interests but upon their functions: one subdivision figures as the owner of the machinery of production, the other as the owner of the machinery of distribution or exchange; the one is "producer", the other "middle man". These distinctions are essential to guide one in keeping the right goal in mind, and they are all-essential in protecting one from false tactics.

Socialism aims at abolishing classes; consequently, there can be no "middle class" under Socialism. On the other hand, the functions now filled by the "middle man", the functions of "exchange" or "distribution" is a necessary one, indispensable to collective labor; consequently, the middle man's function is not to be abolished. All the present objections to the "middle man" are, the same as the objections to the capitalist, based on his private ownership and exploitation of the necessaries to social life.

The profits on which the capitalist lives are not the "extortionate prices" he charges for his goods. His profits are that part of the value of his goods which his employees produce and he withholds from them. This scientific principle can not be overlooked without one's running the risk of being dumped at any moment into any of the numerous mischievously absurd movements to improve the condition of the working people. The manufacturing capitalist (producer) pays his employees less than the value of what they produce in the mills; the difference in his stealings are profits; and identically is the case with the farmer who employs farm hands. If the manufacturer and the farmer have a large enough capital to down their competitors, they are of the upper capitalists; if not, farmer, as well as manufacturer, is of the middle class.

A shopkeeper (middle man) pays his employees less than the value that their labor in distribution imparts to commodities; the difference is his stealings or profits. If his capital, like a Wannamaker's, is large enough to down competitors, he is of the upper capitalist, "middle man though he is"; if his capital is not large enough to protect him against competition, then he is a "middle class middle man".

The levity with which uninformed people will set themselves up as educators and "eye-openers", and thereby throw greater confusion into already sufficiently confused minds, as done by the writer of the passages herein criticized, is one of the distressing features of our times and country.

The numerous calls that have come in for the New Bedford speech "What Means This Strike?" published in these columns a few weeks ago, has determined the National Executive Committee to reprint it in pamphlet form. It can be had at the Labor News Company, 64 E. 4th street, this city. Single copies, 5 cents; 10 copies, 30 cents; 50 copies, $1,25; 100 copies, $2.50.

CORRESPONDENCE.

S. T. & L. A. Convention.

To THE PEOPLE:—Would it not be a good idea to open a debate on the best place and date for the next convention of the S. T. & L. A.? Shall I open the ball? I favor Buffalo and July 4. Buffalo gives Western L. A.'s a chance; it is quite cool there in summer, and July 4 is a convenient day, being a holiday.

New York, April 6. W.

[This subject is hardly worth a debate. We give though the above statement as a very full presentation of the advantages of Buffalo and July. To save space, we shall close the question by stating right here the arguments that are advanced in favor of Philadelphia and September 19.

As to Philadelphia, it is nearer the center of a majority of L. A.'s; a convention there will be better attended than in Buffalo.

As to September 19, the constitution admits to the convention only organizations chartered at least three months prior. A July 4 convention would exclude all the work of the organizers from now on of manifesting itself in the convention. If it is held on September 19, then organizations chartered as late even as June 19 could participate. The activity of the organizers in the field justifies the expectation of a large increase of L. A.'s during the next months.

Secondly, a convention on September 19 would be held so completely during campaign times, that it would give material aid to the S. L. P. campaign of the town in which it is held. A July 4 convention would pass without any such effect being held too far off from election day.

These, in short, are the arguments on both sides; the matter need occupy no further space.—ED. THE PEOPLE.]

Valuable Experience in Fulton County.

To THE PEOPLE:—For the past few weeks a movement has been going on in the twin cities of Gloversville and Johnstown which is well worth a few lines. The outcome of this movement is calculated to become of more than passing importance, not alone to those directly concerned but to party members throughout the country.

Fulton County is the centre of the glove industry of America. Not only are gloves made here, but the leather is dressed in the numerous mills, which poison the air for miles around and have converted the beautiful Cayadutta creek, that flows through the two places, into an open sewer. The men employed in these mills receive as wages for their disagreeable and arduous toil barely sufficient to keep body and soul together when they work steady, which is not often. It would seem that we produce more gloves than are required to supply the wants of the people. Yet that cannot be, as there are a great number of people throughout the land who cannot protect their hands from the cold, just as there are many amongst us who lack other necessaries of life while men who are willing and able to produce them go idle. The workers in this particular industry are just beginning to see that there is something out of order in our "glorious" civilization. At first they thought that an increase of a few cents a day in their wages would redress the wrongs which they suffer. Therefore one branch of the leather industry, the knee-stackers, struck for an increase of 25 cents a day. They thought their demand was so just that if they only asked for living wages, and suggested to their bosses the right to better wages for their monotonous and hard labor, they would have their demands granted. But the bosses were class-conscious, and, being true to their class interests, withstood the "audacity" of their wage slaves with their combined force. Then the strikers appealed to their comrades in the other branches of the business for sympathy. The snede wheel finishers, men who themselves earned even less than the knee-stackers, then went out in sympathy. This did not lead to victory, for another set of men, the bucktail finishers, men who consider themselves aristocrats of labor because through their organization they had maintained better wages than the rest, refused to help the knee-stackers in their struggle, and did not respond, with few noble exceptions, to the plea of the strikers. This has prolonged the strike, which is now in its eighth week, but success seems now assured in a short time, nevertheless, owing to better class-conscious tactics.

While the strike was in progress some of our Comrades were actively engaged in imparting the light of new trades unionism, and the result was that the Knee-Stackers' Union asked the Executive Board of the S. T. & L. A. for a speaker. The request was granted, and Comrade Vander Porten, of New York, was sent at once. A series of meetings was held, lasting for two weeks, during which the hall was crowded every night, and all the strikers, with many others, formed a strong district alliance, composed of six locals, with a total of over 300 members. The Johnstown Knee-Stackers' Union joined in a body, and a mixed alliance was organized here as well. A strong American branch, S. L. P., was organized in Gloversville last Sunday, and another one here on Wednesday. Comrade Vanderporten has proven himself a successful organizer, and a man with his energy and ability has long been lacking up here. It is not safe for a man who is employed in the leather or glove business to be very actively engaged in waging war against existing conditions, for the manufacturers are united and experts in black-listing. With a good man at the head of the movement, Fulton County will soon be one of the strongholds of Socialism.

One advantage we enjoy over many places: we have no labor fakirs to fight, as that specimen of humanity has never thriven in this locality. It will be a fight between the two extreme classes—capitalist and proletariat, and a merry war it will be, with all the odds for the latter. The moral of it all is that the formation of the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance was a step in the right direction, and all who still doubt the wisdom of calling into existence this powerful ally of the S. L. P. should keep their eye on Fulton County and watch the results.

A JOHNSTOWN KNEE-STACKER.
Johnstown, N. Y., April 2.

Sporadic Measles in Haverhill.

To THE PEOPLE:—The first outbreak of "Debsomania" was noticed last Friday evening when Jas. F. Carey, of this city, and "Rev." Herbert N. Casson, of Lynn, addressed the local trade unionists in City Hall. The meeting was preceded by a parade, not of the "pure and simplers," as one might imagine, but of the Debs' Democracy, the front rank being made up by Jas. F. Carey, the "Rev." H. N. Casson, late of the Bryan Democracy, and a local Debsite. As they wended their way to City Hall your correspondent reviewed the parade, which was headed by a local musical organization of about the same size. I could not help but think as these crusaders of the "distinct American movement and new Christianity" passed by, of that old familiar hymn which I had so often heard in bygone days when at religious gatherings some individual, more Godly than the rest, would break forth in unrestrainable song: "Follow, follow, I will follow Jesus anywhere; everywhere I will follow Him."

Arrived at City Hall, after musical exercises by the band, Jas. F. Carey was trotted out as the first speaker. He told his audience that the S. L. P. had its face resolutely set against progress; that the Debs' movement worked in harmony with International Socialism (sic.); that it was a distinct American movement, and that it was a "reform movement." He gave as his reasons for leaving the S. L. P. that the Section of which he was a member had voted to join the Debs' Democracy, but failed to state to the assembled audience what part he played in this game. He said he was their elected servant, and that it was his "duty" to withdraw, which statement left his hearers to logically infer that should "James F. Carey's Section"—and it was his in more ways than one—vote to go into the Republican or Democratic parties, notwithstanding the fact that they derived their existence as a body from a charter granted them by the S. L. P., and that he himself was holding a certain public office, and was nominated and elected through the instrumentality of the S. L. P., he must go, no other choice was open to him. This reasoning, while false, is as true as any which has been previously advanced for this traitorous conduct to the only party of the working class. This was his conception and definition of the imperative mandate.

He then took up the question of trade unionism, and from start to finish it was a careful attempt to catch the "pure and simpler" through his stupidity. It was his sole purpose to "unite" the oppressed wage slaves not into a class-conscious revolutionary body, but into the hybrid organizations of Gompers and Debs. He went back before Herodotus to give pure and simple trade unionism a respectable pedigree, and left the uninitiated to infer that the trade union in its modern sense is the creation of the Greek and the Roman, instead of being the result of British stupidity, which it is. The speaker went into oratorical ecstacies descriptive of how the first great move was made in the direction of the collective ownership of the means of production and distribution WHEN THOSE GREEK AND ROMAN FIGHTING SAVAGES BROUGHT ABOUT THE COLLECTIVE OWNERSHIP OF GOD!!! The next thing was that capitalists were the creatures of conditions, an environment like the poor—he could not help it. I suppose therefore we should not hate them. (Perhaps the speaker remembered Debs' recent letter to Rockefeller, and thought that worthy might yet respond.) The finish came with a figurative peroration, in which he asked the "proletaire" to sail into the haven of the Co-operative Commonwealth via the Gompers and Debs route.

Then his "Reverance" came forward, and in his peculiar and Silver—y way told the "Comrades" all about the "industrial war," but he religiously abstained from telling them one word about how in the late Presidential contest he was engaged by the Bryan and Williams contingent of the capitalist class to fetter the workers in the cross of silver. No word came from him as to what he had been doing since the S. L. P. fired him two years ago. His wail was the same as his predecessor's: Pure and simple trade unions, with their antiquated, barborous and impotent weapons, and the Debs' Democracy, with its colonization swindle, were to be the subjugators of the beast of capitalism. His hearers were treated to an elaborate explanation of the difference between the capitalist who cuts wages and sandbags the working class generally, but whom the Socialist does not hate as bad as they do the trust magnate, who has passed the point of competition in the struggle of commercialism. After doing this last master stroke for his late employers, the bankrupt trust-hating, silver-lined, middle class robbers of the working class, his "Reverence" closed and offered for sale the "Appeal to Reason" and the "New Times," which is a silver magazine, with just enough economic slush thrown in to catch the half-baked and informed Socialist and Silver Democrat, who are and must of necessity be birds of a feather. The "pure and simplers" paid the freight, although with equal consistency it might be paid by the Debs' Democracy or the Silver Bugs, as both were possessed of some equities thereon. The new disease will be short lived, and will not become epidemic.

M. T. BERRY.

Haverhill, Mass., March 28.

The Leaven Working in Westfield, Mass.

To THE PEOPLE:—The Westfield Section, S. L. P., has at last got by the municipal campaign with a telling victory for Socialism. It is now eager to strike another blow at corruption and droneism.

The following is the document which we circulated among the voters:

"We believe the citizens of Westfield are entittled to a knowledge of the causes that have impelled the Socialist Labor party to participate in the election of town officers for the ensuing year. In years past the local government has been almost entirely in the hands of the so-called business and professional men, the wage-workers receiving hardly any representation on the different boards of officers. These wage-workers are entitled to a representation in the town government, and we do not consider them represented until they have elected to office men who are themselves class-conscious wage workers. Then, and only then, will the interests of the representative and those he represents be identical. The Democratic and Republican parties have failed to secure for the wage-workers such a representation. It could not reasonably be expected that these old parties would seek to serve the laboring class, because they are in this town as in all others, the subservient tools of the 'business class.'

"We are dissatisfied with the administration of the affairs of the town during the past years. The selectmen have continually and unnecessarily called town meetings and public hearings at times when it was inconvenient or impossible for the wage laborers of the town to attend. We believe the selectmen, as executive officers of the town, have shown discrimination in the enforcement of the laws. We will note a few examples: Owners of fast horses have been allowed to drive them on the streets of the town at a rate of speed which endangered pedestrians and other drivers; yet the law was strictly enforced when bicyclists ventured to ride at a faster rate of speed than the law allowed. The local street railway company has been permitted to tear up the surface of the main street of the town and to replace it in an unworkmanlike manner, leaving it rough and uneven where replaced. This same company has been allowed to locate its tracks in the middle of a comparatively narrow street, thereby rendering traffic on this street more dangerous than is ordinarily rendered by a street railway. We believe that the streets and roads of the town have not been wisely and intelligently constructed and repaired, and that the appropriations for public improvements and repairs have not been equitably expended; we think certain localities have received the lion's share of the appropriations, and others (the workingmen's) have been entirely neglected.

"We have heard the complaint that voters have been disfranchised because the assessors neglected to do their duty. In the treasurer's report of receipts and expenditures of the Board of Water Commissioners from Jan. 1, 1895, to Jan. 1, 1896, appears the following item: 'Haggar and Squire, for dinners, $50.'

"The School Committtee, which should be composed of men whose probity ought never to be put in question, seems to have considered it good policy for the town to speculate in real estate, to buy landed property and hold it for a rise in value. That the present administration of our local government is considered weak and inefficient is shown by the appointment of special committees to have charge of work which should properly come under the jurisdiction of the regularly elected town officers. It has been demonstrated by their conduct in the past that the so-called "business men" are less fitted to transact the business of the town wisely and prudently than are the wage workers, and we believe that an administration of wage workers will prove more capable and more honest than any in the past.

"The two old parties will seek to raise a false issue over street railway connection with Springfield. One will doubtless favor the Union street route; the other, the Main street route. This is not an issue which concerns the wage laborer, but is an issue devised in the interests of the street railway company some of the merchants, and a few property-holders, who wish to increase the value of their property. In fact it is a capitalistic issue, and, as is usual with such issues, we shall find the two old parties hopelessly divided over a matter which concerns only a small minority of the people. The point which concerns the great majority of the voters is not the route by which the street railway connection with Springfield shall be effected, but that such connection shall be effected, and effected as soon as possible.

"The real issues of this municipal election are as follows:

"A just representation of the wage workers in the town government.

"Town meetings and public hearings to be held at such times as will be most convenient for wage laborers to attend.

"Municipal ownership of the gas and electric lighting plant.

"Municipal employment of idle citizens.

"No town work to be done by contract, but to be done directly by the town.

"The wages of the town laborers to be $2 per day, and eight hours to constitute a working day.

"Immediate railway connection with Springfield.

"Free kindergartens in connection with the public schools.

"These are the demands of the Socialist Labor party of Westfield, and its candidates are pledged to do all in their power to secure the fulfillment of these demands and to reform the existing abuses in our local government. Each of these candidates has deposited with the secretary of his party organization his resignation of the office for which he is nominated, signed and properly filled out, but with the date left blank. In the event of his election and refusal to comply with the wishes of his constituents, they may, by a majority vote, authorize the secretary of the Section to date resignation, and hand it to the proper authorities. The Socialist Labor party thus provides for itself safeguards which obligate its candidates, if elected, to be simply delegates, whose only power or privilege as such is to do the bidding of the people, whom they represent."

Below is the vote we polled:

	Votes.
For Selectmen and Overseers of the Poor—	
Oscar P. Bein	84
Henry Hawkins	93
John Ingoldsby	168
For Water Commissioner—	
Leon S. Oliver	145
For Board of Health—	
Alexander G. McCurrach	139
For School Committee—	
Geo. H. Sharp	169
Clarance E. Spelman	163

When we consider that the total vote cast was 22,000, we will see that this gives on the average 6 per cent. of all the votes cast. The municipal lighting measure was carried at last election by a vote of 1,400 against 200. The vote this year stood 1,306 against 445.

A. G. McCURRACH.

Westfield, Mass., March 31.

Syracuse, N. Y.

THE PEOPLE always for sale at M. Lemp's, 470 S. Salina street, Syracuse, N. Y.

PARTY NEWS.

Activity of Militant Socialists East, West, North and South.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Secretary Henry Kuhn, 184 William street, N. Y.

NATIONAL BOARD OF APPEALS — Secretary Robert Bandlow, 193 Champlain St., Cleveland, O.

National Executive Committee.

Session of April 5, with Comrade Matchett in the chair. After hearing the reading of the minutes and of the financial reports, the old committee adjourned sine die, and the new one took charge. The financial report showed: Receipts, $14.15; expenditures, $63.53; deficit for the week, $49.38. The report covered the week ending April 2.

Upon reopening, the new committee elected Comrade Teche to the chair. All were present except Hickey and Vanderporten, who are out on the road in the service of the party. The committee organized by electing Comrade L. A. Malkiel recording secretary, and Comrade Henry Stahl treasurer. Martin J. Rutledge, of Dallas, Texas, and S. H. Losee, of Gainesville, Texas, were upon application admitted as members at large. The English and German Sections of Indianapolis, Ind., reported to have amalgamated into one Section under the name "Section Indianapolis" and asked for charter. Same was granted. English Section at Oneida, N. Y., is reported to have reorganized with 20 members. Organizers Vanderporten, Hickey and Keinard report as to their work, all of them having met with good success. A committee from the Bohemian branch, Section New York, presented itself and asked for the official endorsement of the National Executive Committee, as a party organ, of the Bohemian weekly paper to be started on May 1, under the name of "Pravda" (Truth). Resolved to grant the request and to call upon the Sections of the country to extend all possible aid to the paper. A paper of this kind is a necessity to reach the large population of Bohemian workingmen in this country, and since the editorial management is to be placed under the control of the National Executive Committee, assurance is given that it will remain in the hands of the party and in its service. Sections should not fail to help it along by contributing to the fund and raising subscriptions.

Resolved, To issue a call to the Sections of the party for nominations for one delegate to the National Convention of the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance, in accordance with Article IV, section 5 of the constitution.

Charters were granted to new Sections in Tacoma, Wash., and Pleasantville, N. Y.

A. S. BROWN,
Recording Secretary pro tem.

A CALL

to the Sections of the Socialist Labor party.

In view of the approaching National Convention of the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance, and in accordance with the provisions of the party's constitution under Section 5 of Article IV, the sections of the S. L. P. are hereby called upon to make nominations for one delegate, to represent the Socialist Labor party at the said convention.

The nominations made must be sent to the undersigned no later than Saturday, May 7, 1898, on which day they are closed, and the names presented will be submitted to a general vote. The convention will be held in Philadelphia or Buffalo on July 4 or September 19. Exact date and place will be given before a vote is taken.

By order of the National Executive Committee, S. L. P.

HENRY KUHN, Secy.

Kentucky.

KENTUCKY, March 30—Our Commune celebration, March 20, was again a big success, despite bad weather and an opposition celebration by the progressive (?) Turners of this city.

Our programme was carried out without a hitch, and the various numbers were all liberally applauded. March 28 a strong mixed alliance of the S. T. & L. A. was organized, and in consequence we will be better equipped to fight the local labor fakirs. Those gentry have been making themselves less popular than ever of late, and it is only necessary for the S. T. & L. A. to get a fair hearing from the rank and file in order to open the fight all along the line. Among the most progressive organizations here are the Iron Molders' Unions Nos. 16 and 18. Comrade Hickey's good work out East among their craftsmen has begun to bear fruit, and as a result they have ordered 16 copies of THE PEOPLE to be distributed among the men.

Since Kurzenknabe is making so many jumps of late politically, the members of the local Brewers' Union are at a loss to know where he will land next.

They have accordingly expressed a desire to hear a representative of the S. L. P. on the subject of "Debsism and Socialism", so that they may understand just "WHERE THEY ARE AT".

A great many Brewers are also reading upon the S. T. & L. A.; one of them remarked recently that since the "Brauer-Zeitung" had so thoroughly advertised the S. T. & L. A. he was in duty bound to know more about it.

The Comrades here will soon have to be stirring for the Congressional campaign, as we must get 400 petitions this year, instead of 100, as before. In order to more contralize our work in the future, we have decided to merge the American Section into the German and henceforth call the same Section Louisville. Agitation will be carried on in both languages just as before, but beginning April 1 the meetings will be every Sunday morning, instead of afternoon, at Zimmerman's Hall. The S. T. & L. A. meets at the same hall every second Monday in the month, at 8 P. M.

Subjects for addresses during April:

April 3—"Antisemitism and Socialism", F. Giffey (German).

April 10—"The Evolution of Machinery", Kleinhenz.

April 17—"North American Turnverein-Bund and Social Democracy", A. Pecklenk (German).

April 24—"Why Does the S. L. P. Recognize the Class Struggle"? F. Rist.

Meetings at Zimmerman's Hall, 124 West Jefferson street, every Sunday, at 9 A. M.

Socialist Club of New York.

The above club having decided to arrange an entertainment and ball, desires to call the attention of the Comrades to the event which is to come off on April 9, at Liberty Hall, 257 East Houston street.

All necessary arrangements were made at the last meeting, held March 28 at 200 East Broadway, committees appointed and final arrangements made. In view of the fact that this affair is held for the purpose of raising funds for the establishments of club rooms for the Socialists of the East Side, it is expected that Comrades will aid the affair by attending en masse and bringing their friends along.

The programme is a very attractive one; many good talents have been engaged.

New York.

Regular meeting of the General Committee of Section Greater New York, S. L. P., will take place on Saturday, April 9, at 8 p. m., at the Labor Lyceum, 64 East 4th street, New York. Delegates should not fail to attend.

ORGANIZER.

Section Yonkers is making arrangements for a grand May Day festival in Teutonia Hall, on Monday, May 2d. Comrade A. S. Brown will speak in English, and there will be speakers in Yiddish, German and Slavish. The Labor Songs, "Down with Slavery," "May Day," and "The Hand and Hammer," will be rendered by the Yonkers Socialist Singing Society. All the Comrades in Westchester County are cordially invited.

Pennsylvania.

PHILADELPHIA, April 4.—Comrade Daniel DeLeon will deliver an address on "Trade Unions in Politics" under the auspices of American Branch No. 2, S. L. P., in the Kensington Labor Lyceum, 2916 North 2d street, on Saturday evening, April 16th. Grand free concert from 7:30 to 8:30. Members of unions are specially invited to attend this meeting.

FRANK STREIT, Sec.,
American Branch No. 2.

Virginia.

ROANOKE, Va.—The Socialist party of Roanoke City have nominated the folowing candidates for the various municipal offices and invite the wage-workers and all other honest citizens to unite with them at the ballot box:

For Mayor—K. A. Grandstaff.

For Commissioner of Revenue—Jacob Harvey.

City Sergeant—R. H. Payne.

City Constable—D. H. Revere.

For Council—First ward, J. L. Daddow, W. T. Welsh.

For Council—Second ward, J. E. Boon, C. Swink.

For Council—Third ward, R. C. Adams.

For Council—Fourth ward, J. P. Goodman, A. E. Fairweather.

For Council—Fifth ward, no nominations.

The vacancies in the Third and Fifth wards will be filled later on.

The following platform was adopted at the meeting:

"We affirm our allegiance to the national platform of the Socialist Labor party and present the following resolutions and demands for the immediate relief of the working people:

"Resolved, That we advocate the establishment of city parks and recreation grounds, and in such localities as will give all our people an equal share in the benefits.

"Second, We demand that Roanoke City obtain possession of all local railroads, water, gas, electric light and power, and all industries requiring municipal franchise or supervision.

"Third, We further demand the adoption of the eight-hour law in all public departments and enforcement of all ordinances pertaining to the cleanliness and health of the city.

"Fourth, We also demand an honest and economical administration of municipal affairs and an equitable enforcement of the assessment laws.

"Fifth, That the city establish at the earliest convenience a hospital with all modern improvements.

"Sixth, That no city work be done by contract, but directly by the city."

A big vote is expected.

PARLIAMENTS OF LABOR.

General Executive Board, S. T. & L. A.

At the last meeting August Waldinger was chairman.

The following charter applications were read and granted: Knee-stackers' Alliance, Snedewheel & Bucktail Finishers, and Mixed Alliance, all of Gloversville. N. Y. Mixed Alliance and Knee-stackers' Alliance, of Johnstown. N. Y. Mixed Alliance, Amsterdam. N. Y. Mixed Alliance and Central Labor Federation, D. A. No. 3, of New Bedford, Mass. Mixed Alliance, Holyoke, Mass. Springfield Labor Club, of Springfield, Mass. Pioneer Alliance, Worcester, Mass., and Chicago Cloakmakers' Union, Chicago, Ill.

Progressive Bohemian Typographical Union requested permission to use the label of the S. T. & L. A. Granted.

Peter Damm, Carriage & Wagonmakers' Union No. 4, Chicago, Ill., remitted $3 in support of the S. T. & L. A. New Bedford strikers. He also announced that the election would be held on April 3rd, and good results, especially in an increased vote, was looked for. The best of harmony prevails between the S. L. P. and S. T. & L. A. D. A. No. 11 and the L. A.'s are making fine progress.

M. Weber, Buffalo, N. Y., announced that the organizations hope that the convention will be held at that city, as the summer excursion rates are cheap and July is very cool.

Prog. Boot & Shoe Makers' Alliance 131 has purchased a shoe factory so as to give work to its unemployed and victimized members. A District Alliance is organized. Complaint was made that the Polish Comrades are very slow in agitation, and that paper "Silo" suffers with the same disease.

Peter Schwiete, St. Louis, Mo., wrote that he had been on an agitation tour in Bevier, Mo., and found a very good field among the miners for the S. T. & L. A. Two names of trustworthy Comrades were remitted, who would make good use of agitation material to be sent them.

James Reid, Secretary, Rhode Island District Council of Textile Weavers, wrote for information relative to affiliating with the S. T. & L. A.

B. Schlesinger, Secretary, Chicago Cloakmakers' Union, remitted a charter application and $10 in aid of the S. T. & L. A. New Bedford strikers.

Owen Rogers, Rockland, Me., gave a view of the existing conditions, and believed it probable that a L. A. could be organized.

Lewis C. Frey, St. Louis, Mo., reported that the S. T. & L. A. label appeared on the top of the paper, "Arm and Hammer."

Progressive Tailors' Alliance No. 114, Buffalo, N. Y., remitted $10 for the S. T. & L. A. New Bedford strikers.

The vote for the convention city and date compiled officially to date is: Buffalo, N. Y., July 4, N. Y. Central Labor Federation, D. A. No. 1, Ale & Porter Union No. 1, Arbeiter-Zeitung Publishing Association, Prog. Rolled Cigarette Makers' Union, German Waiters' Union No. 1, Silver Workers' Prot. Ass. Furriers' Union, Waiters' Alliance Liberty, Empire City Lodge Machinists, Ladies' Waist Makers' Union, United Hebrew Trades, Pressmen & Feeders' Union, German Coppersmiths' Union, Carl Sahm Club, People's Orchestra, Union Hill, N. J.; Mixed Alliance, Albany, N. Y. For Buffalo, Sept. 19, D. A. No. 10 and Bakers & Confectioners, L. A. 2, Boston, Mass. Philadelphia, Pa., September 19, Bronx Borough Labor Club, Prog. Clothing Cutters & Trimmers, Bakers and Confectioners' Union, L. A. 84, Goodyear Turn & Welt Shoe Workers, Excelsior Labor Club and N. Y. Shoe Workers. For Philadelphia, July 4, Prog. Tailors' Union No. 11.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 6, at 64 East 4th street.

D. A. No. 1.

(CENTRAL LABOR FEDERATION OF N. Y.)

G. Mielenhausen, delegate of the United Engineers' Union No. 1, was chairman at last Sunday's session of the N. Y. Central Labor Federation, D. A. No. 1, S. T. & L. A., and H. Rubin, delegate of the German Waiters' Union No. 1, was vice-chairman.

Credentials were received from Progress Club for L. Pomrantz, B. Korn and A. Fehr; Pressmen & Feeders' Union for M. Langhart, and Prog. Typographical Union No. 83 for H. Wohl and F. Stutzrinski. They were admitted.

A letter from Morris Machovitch, member of the Prog. Rolled Cigarette Makers' Union, complaining against the management of the Co-operative Cigarette factory, was read and referred to the special committee.

Grievance Committee reported that in the complaint of two delegates the plaintiff appeared but the defendant was absent. The committee was instructed to report definitely next Sunday.

Ind. Bakers, Branch 1, reported that a committee is to visit boss Meisel, 2d avenue, between 75th and 76th streets, for the purpose of collecting back dues from negligent members. If they are not successful their discharge will be demanded. An Agitation Committee was also elected.

Ind. Bakers, Branch 2, reported having voted for Buffalo, N. Y., and July 4. A committee called upon the bosses Schade and Bausch. The former could not be seen, and the latter promised to send his workmen to the union. A further report will be made. New members were admitted.

Carl Sahm Club reported that the "Vorwärts" Musical Union had offered to play at the Windsor and Thalia Theatres for $10 per week, and claimed that they were the only union musicians, all others being scabs. The case was referred to the Arbitration Committee to act with the United Hebrew Trades, D. A. No. 2.

Bohemian Butchers' Union donated $5 to the New Bedford strikers.

Prog. Typographical Union No. 83 elected a conference committee to act with the Theatrical Unions. They will arrange monthly agitation meetings.

Pressmen & Feeders' Union elected a committee to call upon boss Zunzer, 171 E. Broadway, relative to a reduction of wages.

Progress Club reported election of officers. New members were admitted. A committee was elected to arrange lectures and another to arrange a blowout this summer in conjunction with Ale & Porter Union No. 1.

Prog. Rolled Cigarette Makers' Union reported that the report made by a committee according to which, it is alleged, that D. A. 49 had organized 17 of these expelled members into the Pioneer Cigarmakers' Alliance, was false, and had not been authorized by the union. On August 13th a picnic will be held at Brommers' Union Park. Relative to the label matter of Siedenberg, Stiefel & Co., the union decided to uphold the agreement made by the Arbitration Committee, and grant said firm the label.

Executive session was then entered into.

Thereafter a voluntary Organization Committee of 20 men was organized.

It was resolved to arrange for a concert and ball to be held in May, and the following delegates were elected as the Arrangements Committee, with full power: J. B. Clayton, L. Timothy, Aug. Waldinger, Ernest Bohm, M. Sontheimer, L. Lustig and E. Leske. Carl Sahm Club volunteered to furnish 12 pieces of music.

The Arbitration Committee reported having visited Fred. Lohbauer's Bay View Park, Westchester, N. Y., and he agreed to employ only union people.

D. A. 49.

The regular meeting of D. A. 49 was held in its new hall, 475 Pearl street, on Friday evening, April 1st, with the D. M. W. Daniel DeLeon at the capitol, and a large attendance of delegates. Roll call showed all officers present.

Credentials were received from the following organizations:

Shoe Lasters, L. A. 122—Eugene Donahue, Chas. Lavin and Myron Stone.

Bronx Borough Labor Club—Joseph Wright.

German Longshoremen of Hoboken, L. A. 148—Henry Schreck and J. Niemars.

Shoe Fitters, L. A. 149—Israel Porgalien.

Bohemian Mixed Alliance, L. A. 150—Rudolph Katz and Victor Fisher.

Reports of officers:

D. M. W. reported that he had attended the mass meeting called by the Boot & Shoe Workers' Union to debate which organization was the better—the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union or the General Council of Shoe Workers of the S. T. & L. A. John F. Tobin, the National President of the Boot & Shoe Workers' Union, claimed that he knew nothing about the challenge issued by Mr. Heaning at the Central Labor Union, and while he would not refuse to debate, still at this time he was unprepared, as he had not the data with him which he required. It was then decided to hold the debate at some future date. Had also attended the mass meeting called by the district for the striking cigarmakers of Siedenberg's factory. Owing to the instructions given by Isaac Bennett and others of the International Union drawing pay as Strike Committee and picketmen, the strikers remained away. A hearing was given to the Pioneer Alliance, who had remained out of the factory, and it was shown that the strike was more for the purpose of driving the Pioneers out than for anything else. This was afterwards proved by the settlement made by the International, which did nothing but exclude the Pioneers from the place. Had attended the meeting of the Pioneer Cigarmakers and the committee which was appointed to visit the Cigarette Makers' Union of D. A. No. 1, and demand an explanation for their action during the Siedenberg difficulty, reported that the Cigarette Makers' Union denied that they had taken any official action detrimental to the Pioneer Cigarmakers' Union, and were not responsible for the action of individual members. As this Local had not officially repudiated the actions of thei members or in any way punished them for their action, it was decided by the Pioneers to defer action until their next meeting, and if the Cigarette Makers' Local fails in the meantime to take any action, the Pioneers will refer the whole matter to this district.

On motion, report was received.

D. W. F. reported having addressed the Jewelery Workers' Union on the aims and objects of the Alliance on March 24. Also organized the Bohemian Mixed Alliance. On motion, report was received.

Secretary reported that he had visited the Italian Longshoremen's Union of Hoboken on Sunday, March 27th, and they passed resolution to join the Alliance. Went to headquarters of the Glove Cutters' Union, but they had no meeting. Had assisted the M. W. at the mass meeting for cigarmakers, and had called at the headquarters of the strikers in company with the committee of the Pioneer Cigarmakers' Union, on Monday, March 21st, and inquired of the officers of the International Union whether they would recognize the cigarmakers organized by the Alliance. They answered no, under no consideration.

Accompanied the D. M. W. to the Boot & Shoe Workers' mass meeting to debate on the merits of the organizations of the shoe trade. Also visited L. A.'s 11, 122, 140, 298, 148, 149, 1563 and 2394. Locals all increasing in membership. L. A. 298 and 2394 had some trouble with J. Krautman, shoe manufacturer, of 320 East Houston street, who had reduced wages. Trouble still pending. On motion, report was received.

Communications:

Invitation to attend annual ball of the Cigarette Makers' Union. Read and referred to new business.

Letter from Comrade Hickey requesting information be sent about organizing the locals. Attended to by secretary.

One from Comrade Maggio in reply to one sent by Secretary. Received and filed.

One from W. J. Hoar, of Worcester, Mass., acknowledging receipt of books and information on the Alliance. Received and filed.

One from Comrade A. T. Mende, of Hoboken, requesting Comrade Lissauer to speak at the mass meeting of the 4th Ward branch of the S. L. P. Attended by Secretary.

Reports of Committees:

Committee on Ways and Means submitted a plan which, after a general discussion, was adopted.

Auditing Committee reported that they had been waiting for notice from the Secretary.

The Auditing Committee will meet on Tuesday evening at 6 o'clock.

The following members were appointed to act on the Arrangement Committee for the reunion: Comrades Brower, Eckstein, Krinks, Wright and Werdenberg.

Reports of Locals:

L. A. 11 reports progress. Will hold an agitation meeting, and Dr. Degasky will speak.

L. A. 68. Meeting was well attended, and expect large increase in membership.

L. A. 140. Mass meeting was well attended, and they gained ten new members.

L. A. 141. Increase in membership. Voted for Philadelphia and September 19th for convention, and requested the district to prefer charges against L. A. 138 to the G. E. B. as they have failed to take any official action in denial of the false statements made during the Siedenberg trouble.

Moved and seconded that district officers prefer charges against L. A. 138 to the G. E. B. Carried.

L. A. 144. Progress. Comrade Rathkopf spoke at their mass meeting, and they gained six new members. Vote for Philadelphia, Pa., and Sept. 19 for convention.

L. A. 109. Progress.

L. A. Longshoremen reported that McHugh would hold a mass meeting in Odd Fellows' Hall to try to keep his organization together.

L. A. 122. Initiating new members. Vote for Philadelphia and September 19th for convention

L. A. 149. Reported they had some trouble with outside contractors, but were successful.

L. A. 150. Reported they had held their first meeting and elected officers. They will support the new Bohemian paper, which will be the organ of the S. L. P. and the S. T. & L. A.

L. A. 298. Reported progress. Initiated ten new members. Voted for Philadelphia and September 19th for convention.

L. A. 1028. Progress. Voted for Philadelphia and September 19th. Will raise their initiation fee to $5.

L. A. 1563. Progress. Agitation meeting will be held on Thursday, April 14th, at 437 West 53d street. Will hold entertainment and ball in the N. Y. Labor Lyceum on April 16th.

L. A. 2394. Progress. Trouble in Krautman's shop will be pushed when trade board meets.

New business:

The invitation of the Cigarette Makers' Union was taken up.

Action. Moved and seconded that the same be declined, as the action of this union toward L. A. 141 attached to this district, was antagonistic. Carried. Moved and seconded that we protest against districts voting upon the date and place of next convention, as no general vote has ever been taken by D. A.'s. Carried.

Under good and welfare, the delegates of the Longshoremen's Union requested the district to hold agitation meetings among longshoremen of New York and try and organize them into locals of the Alliance.

Secretary was instructed to make arrangements. W. L. BROWER, Secy.

Amsterdam, S. T. & L. A.

AMSTERDAM, N. Y., April 4. The first meeting of the Mixed Alliance of the S. T. & L. A. of Amsterdam was held at 603 Grove street, this city, to elect officers. The following Comrades were elected to fill said offices: Comrade Arthur Playford, treasurer; Comrade Maurice Duncan, secretary.

Motion made and carried that we meet to transact business second Sunday of each month, and discussion meetings to be held on the fourth Sunday of each month. The room where our meetings are held was given gratuitous by Comrade Hug, to be used until such time as our strength and finances will allow of expenditures in rent for hall.

Since the organization was organized on March 27 we have received five recruits into our membership. The people of Amsterdam are somewhat inclined to the belief that all labor organizations are run solely for the benefits to be derived by the promoters. I cannot blame the people of Amsterdam for taking that view of labor fakirs in general. Our duty is to educate them to think as we do in regard to labor organizing. At one time every man and woman in Amsterdam was connected with labor organizations, and when the big strike occurred here in 1886, the labor fakirs sold out to the capitalist, and thereby the working people received a crushing defeat. It was noticeable that all the parties holding offices in the local branches here started in business for themselves after the strike was declared off. I only refer to this to show what kind of soil we have planted our seed in.

M. DUNCAN, Secretary.

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

THE DAILY PEOPLE
$50,000 FUND.

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$4,575.

☞ Pledgers will please keep in mind the dates on which their payments fall due, as per printed list, and remit promptly. If any error appears on the list, correct with equal promptness.

THE DAILY PEOPLE COMMITTEE.
184 William St., N. Y.

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Admission 15c. Hat Check 10c.

First Grand Annual
CONCERT & BALL
— OF THE —
Boston Trade & Labor Alliance,
D. A. 10, S. T. & L. A.
— HELD ON —
Tuesday, April 19th, afternoon and night,
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ADMISSION: Gent & Lady 50c. Ladies 25c.

The Amalgamated Painters & Decorators
will hold a special meeting on FRIDAY, April 8, at 8 p. m. in BREVOORT HALL, East 54th St. near 3d Ave. Business of importance will be transacted.

Take Notice, Workingmen!
INDEPENDENT UNION MADE BAKERS.
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Pursuant to the decision of a general vote on the introduction of a new label from April 1st, we request the readers of THE PEOPLE to patronize the label with the emblem of the S. L. P., the Arm and Hammer, in the centre and the initials S. T. & L. A.
326 Executive Board of the INDEPENDENT BAKERS UNIONS OF N. Y.

Trades and Societies Calendar.

Standing advertisements of Trades Unions and other Societies (not exceeding five lines) will be inserted under this heading hereafter at the rate of $5.00 per annum.

Organizations should not lose such an opportunity of advertising their places of meetings

Carl Sahm Club (Musicians Union. Meetings every Tuesday at 10 a. m., at 64 East 4th street, New York Labor Lyceum. Business Secretary: Frei. 88

Central Labor Federation of New York (S. T. & L. A., D. A. No. 1). Meets at 2.30 every Sunday afternoon at 64 East 4th street, New York City. All bona-fide trade and labor Unions should be represented. Communications are to be sent to the corresponding Secretary, Ernest Bohm, 64 East 4th street, New York City. 98

Cigarmakers' Progressive International Union No. 90. Office and Employment Bureau: 64 East 4th street.—District I (Bohemian), 324 East 71st street, every Saturday at 8 p. m.—District II (German), at 213 Forsyth St., meets every Saturday at 8 p. m.—District III, meets at 1527 avenue A, every Saturday at 8 p. m.—District IV, meets at 342 West 42nd street, every Saturday at 8 p. m.—The Board of Supervisors meets every Tuesday at 1422 2nd avenue, at 8 p. m. 26

Empire City Lodge (Machinists), meets every 2d and 4th Wednesday evening at the Labor Lyceum, 64 East 4th street. 273 Secretary: PETER STAPLE.

German Waiters' Union of New York, Office: 385 Bowery, Union Hall, 1st floor. Meetings every Friday at 4 p. m. Board of Supervisors meets every Wednesday at 4 p. m., at the same hall. 334

Musical Protective Alliance No. 1028, D. A. 49, S. T. & L. A., Headquarters 79 E. 4th street. Meetings every Friday at 12 o'clock noon. Fred. Hartmann, Pres.; Fred. Woll, corr. Sec'y, 79 E. 4th St. J. S. Krings, Business agent. 241

Metal Spinners Union of New York and Vicinity meets every second and last Friday in the month at 8½ o'clock at 231-233 E. 33d Street. 328

Section Essex County, S. L. P., meets the first Sunday in each month at 3 p. m. in the hall of "Essex County Socialist Club," 76 Springfield Ave., Newark, N. J. 189

Skandinavian Section, S. L. P. Meets 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month at 10 o'clock a. m., at Schuler's Hall, 231-233 East 82d St., New York City. Subscription orders taken for the Scand. Socialist Weekly, SCAND. AM. ARBETAREN.

Socialist Science Club, S. L. P., 34th 35th A. D. S. E. Cor. of 3d Av. and 149th St. Open every evening. Regular business meeting every Friday.

Progressive Clothing Cutters & Trimmers Union, L. A. 68 of S. T. & L. A.—Headquarters, 61 East 4th street, Labor Lyceum.—Regular meeting every Thursday evening, at 8 P. M. 303

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☞ For addresses of the Branch bookkeepers see "Vorwärts".

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Sick and Death Benefit Fund of the United States of America.
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